Case 1:17-cr-00390-ALC Document 113 Filed 12/11/18 Page 1 of 116

Ic4ntay1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 1 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK 2 3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 4 17 Cr. 390 (ALC) V. 5 DAVID TAYLOR, Defendant. Trial 6 -----x 7 New York, N.Y. 8 December 4, 2018 9:30 a.m. 9 Before: 10 11 HON. ANDREW L. CARTER, JR., 12 District Judge 13 -and a Jury-14 **APPEARANCES** 15 GEOFFREY S. BERMAN United States Attorney for the 16 Southern District of New York BY: KIERSTEN A. FLETCHER 17 JUSTIN V. RODRIGUEZ NICOLAS T. ROOS Assistant United States Attorneys 18 CHARLES F. CARNESI 19 Attorney for Defendant 20 Also Present: 21 Matthew Del Rosario, Special Agent DEA 22 Rosanna Corrado, Paralegal Specialist 23 24 25

(Trial resumed; jury not present) 1 THE COURT: Are we all on the same page regarding the 2 3 demonstrative exhibits? Has the government shown defense 4 counsel your demonstrative exhibits? 5 MR. RODRIGUEZ: We have, your Honor. 6 THE COURT: Any objection to it by the defense? 7 MR. CARNESI: No, your Honor. THE COURT: OK. 8 9 Regarding the jury instructions, there will be some 10 sort of occasional misspellings, grammatical errors. 11 just edit those on the fly, and then we will make those changes 12 There are a couple of things that I've seen already 13 that I think should be changed, and I will run that by counsel. 14 On page 16 of the jury instructions -- again, these 15 aren't substantive changes -- the first sentence of that first full paragraph, "which I will explain to you shortly and 16 17 knowing the specific objective of a conspiracy, on the other" I think we should delete that "on the other" because we don't 18 talk about the first hand. So I think we should delete that 19 20 "on the other." 21 Any objection by the government or the defense? 22 MR. RODRIGUEZ: No, Judge. 23 MR. CARNESI: No. 24 THE COURT: OK. 25 The penultimate paragraph on that page, the paragraph

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that starts "in sum" on that same page. It says, "In sum, if
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      you find that the defendant believed that this was a high
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      probability, " I believe that should be "there was a high
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     probability."
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               Any objection to that by the government or the
     defense?
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               MR. RODRIGUEZ: No, your Honor.
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               MR. CARNESI: No, your Honor.
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               THE COURT: OK. I will make that change.
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               MS. FLETCHER: Your Honor?
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               THE COURT: Yes.
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               MS. FLETCHER: There is one more in that paragraph.
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               THE COURT: OK.
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               MS. FLETCHER: The second-to-last line, "knowingly
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      with respect to at a fact." I think that's supposed to be "to
      that fact."
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               THE COURT: Maybe that didn't get -- you are on that
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      same sentence?
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               MS. FLETCHER: Same page, page 16, second sentence
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      from the end of that section.
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               THE COURT: Yes. "At" should be "that." I will make
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      that change as well.
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               Has everyone seen that?
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               Any objection to that by the defense.
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MR. CARNESI: No, your Honor.

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THE COURT: OK. I will make that change.

This is slightly substantive. It is not huge. But on page 26, "Use of Recordings and Transcripts," the last paragraph in that section.

It reads currently, "If you wish to view any of the recordings or transcripts, they will be made available to you during your deliberations."

It seems to me that the transcripts that we are talking about in this section were the transcripts that were given to them in aid of their listening to the recordings. I don't think it would be appropriate to give them the transcripts without them listening to the recordings and seeing the recordings at the same time. So it makes sense to me to perhaps change — also, one of the recordings didn't have a visual component to it. It may make sense to say, if you wish to view or hear any of the recordings with transcripts, they will be made available to you and repeat during your deliberations or cut that.

Any objection that or any comment on that by the government or the defense?

MR. CARNESI: Judge, I would object to the transcripts, since they are not evidence, going into the jury room at any point. If the jury wants to listen --

THE COURT: They are not going into the jury room, which is why I was thinking about cutting the "during your

deliberation." If they want to view or to hear the recordings, 1 they are going to be brought out here. 2 3 MR. CARNESI: OK, Judge. I didn't understand that. 4 THE COURT: That's fine. 5 They will be brought out here, they will be played for 6 them and then they will be provided the transcripts. 7 MR. CARNESI: That's fine. THE COURT: But neither the recordings nor the 8 9 transcripts are going into the deliberations room. That is at 10 least my position unless counsel has a different view of 11 things. 12 MR. RODRIGUEZ: That's fine, Judge. 13 THE COURT: Any objection to that change then in terms 14 of the wording of that last sentence? 15 MR. RODRIGUEZ: No objection. 16 MR. CARNESI: No, your Honor. 17 THE COURT: Because that is what is going to happen. They will be brought out here. I don't know if it is necessary 18 to tell them that in the instructions. Maybe we just cut out 19 20 that last prepositional phrase "during your deliberations" and 21 say they will be made available to you. 22 Any objection to that by the government or the 23 defense?

MR. RODRIGUEZ: No objection.

MR. CARNESI: No, your Honor.

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1 THE COURT: All right. Again, there will probably be some other things, and I will just make those edits on the fly. 2 3 Is there anything else we need to address before the 4 jury comes in? 5 Counsel for the government? 6 MS. FLETCHER: Not for the government, your Honor. 7 THE COURT: For the defense? 8 MR. CARNESI: No, your Honor. 9 THE COURT: We will just wait for the jury to get 10 here. Is there any update in terms of length of summations? 11 Let's get an update and see if they've gotten a little shorter. 12 Hopefully they haven't gotten longer. 13 What is the government's estimate. 14 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Your Honor, I think we mentioned last 15 time we expect it to be under an hour we still expect it to be under an hour, 45 minutes. 16 17 THE COURT: OK. Defense counsel? MR. CARNESI: Between half an hour to 45 minutes, 18 19 Judge. 20 THE COURT: All right. We'll see how it goes. 21 Is the jury here? 22 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Yes, Judge. 23 THE COURT: Are we ready to bring the jury in? 24 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes your Honor. 25 THE COURT: Where the demonstrative exhibits.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: The government will only be using a PowerPoint presentation. We contemplated using a face board as well. We are not using that. It will just be a PowerPoint presentation that will appear on the screens throughout the courtroom.

THE COURT: Defense counsel has seen it and has no objection?

MR. CARNESI: I have no objection.

THE COURT: All right. Let's bring in the jury. Actually, Tara, hold on just a second.

Another thing to make clear if I haven't made it clear to counsel before, we are going to give each of the jurors a written copy of the jury instructions. I will tell them that when I get to charge them.

OK. Let's bring in the jury.

(Jury present)

THE COURT: Please be seated.

Welcome back. We are now going to have closing arguments by counsel. The closing arguments are not evidence, but you should listen to the closing arguments.

If counsel states a fact in their closing argument that is different than your recollection of the facts, it is your recollection that controls.

We will start off with the government's summation. Then, if the defense wishes to have a summation, they will

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provide a summation. Then the government will have a rebuttal summation if they choose.

We will start with summation, closing argument by the government.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: David Taylor is a drug dealer. He betrayed his oath as a doctor and he broke the law.

For years Taylor supplied Vito Gallicchio and the members of his crew with enormous amounts of oxycodone that Taylor knew they did not need. He did this in exchange for a steady stream of easy money and gifts.

David Taylor did not run a medical practice. He ran a pill mill. And he knew exactly what he was doing.

He did not provide medical treatment to patients. maintained a facade. He went through the motions with his fake examinations, almost nonexistent at times, and he covered his tracks by writing bogus notes in the patient charts.

He supplied a network of drug traffickers with the pills that were needed to fuel opioid addictions that destroy lives and devastate communities.

That's why we are here today. We are here to finally hold that man, the defendant, accountable for his crime. Because of what he did, David Taylor is charged in a one-count criminal indictment.

Now, at the end of this trial, Judge Carter will instruct you on the law. What Judge Carter says controls, and

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you should follow all of his instructions, but for now I will just note that the indictment alleges that David Taylor conspired or agreed with other people to distribute oxycodone in violation of the law. That is, David Taylor agreed to prescribe oxycodone to people that he knew did not need it. That's what this case is about.

Now, as you've heard, it's perfectly lawful for a legitimate doctor to issue a legitimate medically necessary prescription for oxycodone. But, as I expect Judge Carter will explain, when a doctor acts outside the regular course of professional practice and issues medically unnecessary prescriptions for controlled substances, he is no longer acting lawfully. That doctor is acting as a drug dealer.

Now, there's not much that's really in dispute in this case, so let's briefly talk about what's seemingly not in dispute here.

There is no dispute that David Taylor was a medical doctor who at times operated out of three offices on Staten Island, an office on Victory Boulevard, then at New You Medical and Dental Pavilion on Castleton Avenue. Lisa Mercado, who used to work at that office as the office manager, told you about how there was a time when David Taylor got kicked out of this office. After that, he went on to another office on Hylan Boulevard.

There is also no dispute that from July 2012 to June

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2017 David Taylor wrote over 21,000 prescriptions for oxycodone As you now know quite well, oxycodone is a powerful and pills. highly addictive painkiller that is similar in chemical makeup to heroin.

You heard from Dr. Gharibo, who helped design the pain management center at Langone Medical here in New York. explained that there is a wide range of doses that oxycodone It ranges from 2.5 milligrams on the low end to 30 comes in. milligrams on the high end for short-acting oxycodone. Dr. Gharibo explained that 30 milligrams of oxycodone is so strong that it's almost never appropriate except for a patient dying from cancer in the last few months of their life. Because of the strength of these pills, you now know that short-acting oxycodone and 30-milligram oxycodone pills in particular are the preferred pills of drug addicts and drug traffickers.

Dr. Gharibo explained that 30-milligram oxycodone pills provide a rapid and euphoric high that addicts and abusers crave. When one 30-milligram pill doesn't suffice, addicts turn to more pills. They look for different ways to absorb the drug. They take it with alcohol. They crush it up and snort it.

And you heard from Detective Del Rosario and DEA Analyst Castro that 30-milligram oxycodone pills are the highest dose oxycodone pill on the market that can be crushed up and snorted.

There's no dispute that from July 2012 to June 2017, David Taylor wrote over 14,000 prescriptions for 30-milligram oxycodone pills. So about two-thirds of the oxycodone prescriptions during these five years were for the highest dosage of short-acting oxycodone available. That is over 2.6 million pills of 30-milligram oxycodone. There's no dispute about any of this.

There is also no dispute that for years Taylor prescribed a massive amount of 30-milligram oxycodone directly to this man, Vito Gallicchio, a brash and shameless drug dealer. From July 2012 to June 2017, Taylor wrote 63 prescriptions for 30-milligram oxycodone to Gallicchio, most often, 240 or 270 pills at a time. That's over 10,000 30-milligram pills, the kind of pills for people dying from cancer, over the course of five years just to Vito himself.

There is also no dispute that Vito had what you heard described as an inner circle of people that he referred to David Taylor -- people like his wife, Lori Gallicchio; his brother, Robert Adams; his nephew, Don Michael Carim; his nephew's roommate, John Marino; his driver, Michael Farley, who you heard referred to as Mikey Limo; his driver's wife, Tara Farley; and other people like Larry Montalbano and Brian Dolinko, both of whom testified at this trial along with John Marino.

There is no dispute that David Taylor prescribed every one of the people in this crew huge amounts of 30-milligram oxycodone. Now, there is also no dispute that David Taylor knew that Vito Gallicchio was referring people from this crew to him. Vito is explicitly referenced in his wife's patient chart, his brother's chart, and in Tara Farley's chart. Vito's address and phone number are listed in Leonard Danzi's file. Vito went with Larry Montalbano for his first visit to David Taylor. John Marino told you how he told David Taylor during his first appointment that Vito had recommended him.

There is also no dispute that the people in Vito's crew had absolutely no need for this oxycodone that David Taylor was prescribing them and that for the most part the crew was just funneling the oxycodone to Vito, which he then sold on the street.

You heard from Larry Montalbano and John Marino that they never took the oxycodone pills Taylor prescribed them.

Instead, they gave the prescriptions for the pills to Vito in return for cash. Brian Dolinko told you that as part of the arrangement he had to give some of his oxycodone pills to Vito. Dolinko then took the rest of the pills, not because he was in pain, not because he needed them, he told you that he took the pills to get high.

There is also no dispute about how Vito and the members of this crew filled the oxycodone prescriptions that

they received from David Taylor. You heard from Larry
Montalbano and John Marino about how certain pharmacies that
they went to, like Walgreens, CVS, refused to fill the
oxycodone prescriptions that David Taylor wrote.

You know from the data that pharmacies have to report as part of the prescription monitoring program that Vito and his crew often traveled far into New Jersey to fill their prescriptions.

They also went to places where Vito had arrangements to fill these prescriptions with pharmacists like Nicholas Avicolli at Victory Pharmacy, and the pharmacist who you heard referred to as Joe as Bergen Point Apothecary in Bayonne, New Jersey.

There is also no dispute that David Taylor received money and gifts from Vito and those in the crew. The three phony patients from Vito's crew you heard testify in this trial -- Larry Montalbano, Brian Dolinko, John Marino -- they all told you how they paid cash for their visits to David Taylor. The three of them, three people who don't know each other, told you how Vito helped Taylor pay the rent on Taylor's office. You heard from Montalbano how Vito once had to pay Taylor \$5,000 in cash.

You saw the bottles of Scotch Taylor received, like the ones you heard about him talking on the recordings, the Glenlivet and Macallan. You even saw a bottle of Scotch right

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there in David Taylor's exam room on the day he was arrested.

Now, you know also that Vito spend almost \$400 buying a dryer for David Taylor, because you heard it from Brian Dolinko and you saw it in the records from P.C. Richard. Right there, the record from P.C. Richard: Sold to Vito Gallicchio, ship to David Taylor, paid \$391.95.

Vito also bought Taylor a refrigerator. You heard about that. You saw the record from P.C. Richard.

Finally, there is no real dispute that venue is proper in this district. That simply means that some act in furtherance of the conspiracy that Taylor was charged with occurred in this district. This district includes, among other places, Manhattan, the Bronx, certain counties to the north, as well as the bridges and waterways that connect Staten Island to the rest of New York and to New Jersey.

Now, at several times during this trial, you heard reference to Vito and the members of his crew getting prescriptions from Taylor in Staten Island and then crossing bridges into New Jersey and filling them at various pharmacies in New Jersey. So, for example, Larry Montalbano testified that he traveled over bridges and waterways within this district to fill his oxycodone prescriptions that he illegally obtained.

So there's no real dispute it seems that this conspiracy took place in places in this district. All of that

seems not to be in dispute in this case.

Which brings us to the only issue which really does appear to be disputed: When David Taylor wrote prescription after prescription of oxycodone for Vito and the members of his crew, month after month, year after year, did David Taylor know that these people did not need it?

When you look at the overwhelming evidence in this case, it is crystal clear that Taylor absolutely did know that he was prescribing medically unnecessary oxycodone to people who did not need it.

So let's look at the evidence. Let's start with the sheer number of 30-milligram oxycodone pills that Taylor prescribed to Vito and the members of the Vito's crew.

David Taylor knew the power of these kinds of pills, and he knew the types of patients that legitimate doctors used them for. You remember Nicholas Avicolli telling you about when he first noticed David Taylor prescribing more and more drugs like oxycodone.

Avicolli confronted Taylor, and in a conversation between two professionals, Taylor said he was doing hospice care, the treatment of terminally ill patients focused on just keeping them comfortable.

That's not what David Taylor was doing for any of the people in Vito's crew. Oxycodone for five years is not hospice care. For Vito Gallicchio, Taylor prescribed either 240 or 270

30-milligram oxycodone pills at a time for almost five years.

That's eight or nine pills of the strongest short-acting oxycodone available every day.

You know from Dr. Gharibo that these are massive — to use his word, ridiculous quantities of oxycodone. This is not something that two doctors can have a reasonable professional disagreement about. These doses of oxycodone, to use Dr. Gharibo's phrase, are not human doses. This is not the way that human beings are treated for pain, especially not for shoulder pain or back pain or carpal tunnel syndrome.

David Taylor prescribed Vito this much oxycodone because he knew that Vito was not taking these pills. He was selling them. And when you sell pills, the more the better.

The numbers tell the story here. You can convict
David Taylor based on what you know about oxycodone
30-milligram pills and the simply not human doses of oxycodone
he prescribed to Vito, and that's it. These numbers tell you
beyond a reasonable doubt that David Taylor knew he was
prescribing medically unnecessary oxycodone.

But, of course, it wasn't just Vito. Taylor was doling out massive doses of 30-milligram oxycodone to everyone in Vito's crew.

Let's take a look at just a couple more examples.

Michael Farley, Vito's driver, 240 30-milligram pills for almost three years between 2013 and 2016.

Robert Adams, Vito's brother, 240 pills at a time between 2012 and 2014. He jumps to 270 pills at a time in March 2014 and he stays there until about 2016.

These numbers don't lie. David Taylor knew he was prescribing huge amounts of oxycodone that could not possibly be for the legitimate treatment of anything.

So what else proves that David Taylor knew what he was doing?

Well, the fact that Taylor performed almost no examination on his so-called patients whatsoever proves that he knew they didn't need the oxycodone.

Dr. Gharibo told you about what a legitimate pain management examination looks and sounds like. Legitimate pain management doctors ask their patients lots of questions:

Where's the pain coming from? What direction does it go in?

What makes it better? What makes it worse? How does the pain affect what you can or can't do in your life?

They ask their patients, legitimate doctors that is, to move, bend, flex the parts of your body where you're telling me you have pain. Legitimate doctors touch and examine the parts of the body where their patients tell them they have pain.

Now, Larry Montalbano, John Marino, Brian Dolinko, they told you that David Taylor hardly did any of that during any of their visits. John Marino even told you he told Taylor

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his shoulder was fine.

You remember that recording that Brian Dolinko made. The visit that lasted all of two minutes and 15 seconds, most of it in complete silence.

What was said?

"David Taylor: OK, how's -- how's your shoulder, range of motion?

"Brian Dolinko: OK.

"David Taylor: OK. So we got the -- the oxycodone and the oxymorphone, right? OK. Go ahead and take a seat in the waiting room."

This is supposed to be someone suffering from excruciating pain, someone who requires a massive amount of opioids, and that's the examination he gets.

Brian Dolinko left Taylor's office that day with what? 180 pills of the muscle relaxer Soma, that's six pills a day; 60 extended-release 12-hour 40-milligram oxymorphone pills, another two pills a day; 180 30-milligram oxycodone pills, six more pills a day.

To be given this cocktail of powerful drugs after asking, "How's your shoulder range of motion?" and getting "OK" with no further physical examination, no follow-up questions, it's ridiculous. This is not a medical examination. This is not the legitimate practice of medicine. This is a charade.

David Taylor did not perform a legitimate medical

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examination on Brian Dolinko because he knew that any exam would reveal that Brian Dolinko did not need it. That's how Taylor operated, a brief song and dance before doling out massive quantities of oxycodone.

You also saw it on the other recordings as well.

With Julio Clark, Taylor went on and on in the recording about Scotch and the history of the Glenlivet after Clark had brought him a bottle. No questions about whether Clark was in pain, no physical examination, nothing.

But what did Julio Clark walk away from that visit with? A prescription for 180 pills of 30-milligram oxycodone.

The next time Clark goes to see Taylor, he tells Taylor that he's addicted to these pills. Then Taylor makes some sort of flippant comment about how Clark should just go to rehab.

Then what does he do? He gives Clark more pills: prescription for oxycodone, a prescription for oxymorphone, and an appointment card for the next visit.

How about Christine Oakes. You remember what one of her visits sounded like.

(Video played)

MR. RODRIGUEZ: You don't need a medical degree to know what is wrong there. She was slurring her speech beyond recognition.

No questions from Taylor about this. No physical

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examination. Why not? Because Taylor doesn't care. He knew what she was there for and he knew what he was going to give her.

And what did she get? 240 30-milligram oxycodone pills and 150 Percocets.

Why didn't Taylor perform meaningful examinations? Because he knew that these patients didn't need them. He knew that if he performed real examinations he wouldn't find anything that required the medications he was prescribing. knew that these patients did not need oxycodone.

Now, if you had any doubt about that, just remember Vito's nephew, Don Michael Carim. At 30 years old, Carim began seeing David Taylor and receiving oxycodone 30-milligram prescriptions. By May 2016, he's getting 240 pills at a time.

Then what happens in March of 2017?

Right in the middle of a string of prescriptions for 180 oxycodone 30-milligram pills, David Taylor clears Don Michael Carim to participate in the FDNY fitness awareness program.

What does that program involve?

Let's look at the paperwork that was in Taylor's file and that Taylor signed. Here it is. "This program involves strenuous physical activity, which will be progressive in nature."

You can see at the bottom of the page there that that

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includes performing the maximum number of uninterrupted pushups and pullups the candidate can perform.

But what else does this document show?

Let's look at this paragraph right here.

It describes the type of people who are not fit to participate in this program because of the serious health risks involved. It includes, right here, people who take opiates, people who take pain medications.

The next page continues to describe what this physical fitness program will entail. The maximum number of situps the candidate can perform, a timed one and a half mile run, a 40-minute physical training session similar to that which is administered during probationary firefighter school.

David Taylor certifies that he examined Don Carim and that he is medically fit to participate in this program.

Taylor is prescribing Carim almost 200 pills a month of the kind of oxycodone reserved for dying cancer patients and he certifies that he's fit to participate in this strenuous physical fitness program?

This document is devastating proof that David Taylor knew that Don Carim was not in pain, that he did not need oxycodone, and that he was not taking oxycodone. You can convict David Taylor based on this document and the oxycodone he was prescribing to Don Michael Carim.

How else do you know that Taylor knew these were not

medically necessary prescriptions?

Literally everyone in the crew got the same prescription for oxycodone.

You saw in the recordings and you also know from the patients who testified at this trial that Taylor never explored or even discussed less potent alternatives to 30-milligrams oxycodone. He always prescribed that pill.

He prescribed it to people like Larry Montalbano, John Marino, Brian Dolinko, right away. No questions asked. In fact, Brian Dolinko told you how he got a prescription of 30 milligrams of oxycodone from David Taylor with no discussion at all about it. He didn't ask for it. They didn't talk about it because they didn't need to. Everyone knew that if you wanted oxy, Taylor was your guy.

You heard from Dr. Gharibo that the norm for a legitimate pain management practice is to have a low percentage of patients on opioids. But astoundingly, against all odds, everyone in Vito's crew not only got opioids, but 30 milligrams of oxycodone, the most diverted form of oxycodone, a pill that addicts like Brian Dolinko buy on the street for \$20 to \$25 for each pill, the strongest oxycodone that can be crushed and snorted by addicts.

Vito and his wife, Lori, were both prescribed this pill. Vito's driver, Michael Farley, and his wife, Tara, were both prescribed this pill. Vito's nephew Don Michael Carim and

his roommate John Marino were both prescribed this pill.

Detective Del Rosario explained how Christine Oakes and both of her parents were prescribed this pill by David Taylor.

It was not a coincidence that all these connected people required the same medication. That's just one small piece of legitimate pain management practice, and David Taylor knew it.

You know from the witnesses and other evidence that Taylor never discussed physical therapy, changes to the patient's lifestyles, referrals to other doctors or specialists, surgeries, pain injections, medications that are not controlled substances, medications that are not opioids, medications that are not oxycodone, lower doses of oxycodone than 30 milligrams, anything else in the wide range of legitimate pain management that you heard about from Dr. Gharibo short of 30 milligrams of oxycodone.

Let me talk just for another minute about Vito and his wife. Both received massive quantities of oxycodone from Taylor. Your common sense tells you how suspicious it is for a wife and a husband to be receiving the same prescription for the same potentially lethal painkiller.

Lisa Mercado, someone with no medical training, was shocked when she learned that a patient as well as that patient's mother and father were all being prescribed the same

months of life.

medication from David Taylor. Vito and Lori, husband and wife, both in their 40s, both receiving enormous quantities of the most abused type of oxycodone from David Taylor, the type of oxycodone reserved for people dying of cancer in their last

That would be suspicious enough on its own, but of course there was more. Vito's brother, his nephew, all of them in such debilitating pain that they had to take hundreds of oxycodone pills each month for years. These were young patients. Mostly all of them were under 50; some of them were in their early 30s.

They weren't in pain and Taylor knew it. That's why he didn't consider any other option that a legitimate pain management doctor would consider. Because when it came to Vito and his crew, Taylor was not a legitimate pain management doctor. He was a drug supplier.

Taylor knew that these patients were addicts and drug dealers, not people in real pain seeking real treatment. That much was obvious from the people in the waiting room in his office that you heard about. Larry Montalbano told that you there were people in there who were nodding off, high on drugs. As Brian Dolinko put it, people were strung out, possibly withdrawing.

How did it work?

You paid your money, you sat down with the doctor, and

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he wrote you a prescription for oxycodone. You didn't have to tell him why you were there. He knew.

Lisa Mercado told you that the waiting room was always chaotic, that there were fights breaking out among the people there.

Larry Montalbano told you that the waiting room was so out of control one day that Taylor stormed in and he yelled: If everybody doesn't shut up and sit down, no one is getting anything.

David Taylor knew that everyone in that waiting room was there for one thing, oxycodone, and he knew they weren't in real pain. But if they were, if they were in such excruciating pain, pain associated with end-stage cancer, what legitimate doctor would threaten to withhold treatment?

No real doctor would do that. But Taylor wasn't acting as a real doctor, trying to treat real patients. He was dealing drugs.

Now, it wasn't only obvious from the waiting room. Ιt was obvious from the inside of his exam room as well. You remember Christine Oakes slurring her words. It was obvious from the phone calls that came in and that were recorded to Taylor.

Like the call Lisa Mercado got that she told David Taylor about, where the mother of a patient in detox called the office and demanded that Taylor no longer see her daughter.

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It's clear that Taylor knew he was treating addicts based on the records you saw relating to James Impellizine. In August 2012, Taylor wrote a letter stating that he was treating Impellizine for opioid dependency and self-reported abuse of prescription opioids. Less than two years later Taylor is prescribing Impellizine OxyContin, Roxicodone, Xanax and Soma. Taylor wasn't treating James Impellizine for anything. He was fueling his addiction.

How else is Taylor's knowledge of what he was doing apparent? The advanced diagnostics that you heard about, like MRIs, CT scans that were in Taylor's charts make clear that his patients did not have the kind of injuries that require oxycodone.

Look at Vito Gallicchio. The only test results in his file were a 2012 CT scan of his head, which revealed normal CT of the brain without contrast. Vito continued getting oxycodone from Taylor for another five years after that normal scan.

Lori Gallicchio, no record of any advanced diagnostic tests in her file at all.

Robert Adams, Vito's brother, three MRIs from 2003, almost a decade before he began seeing David Taylor.

You know from John Marino that his medical scans detected no major injuries.

And Brian Dolinko told you that he only had MRIs from

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a car accident that happened years before he ever saw Taylor.

And what did these patients complain about?

Vito complained of postoperative pain from a 2007 surgery on his knee, general back pain, anxiety, headaches.

Lori Gallicchio, carpal tunnel syndrome.

Larry Montalbano said he had heel spurs.

John Marino complained of pain when he was playing sports.

These are not the kind of injuries that require an opioid as powerful as 30 milligrams of oxycodone. In fact, as Dr. Gharibo told you, oxycodone 30 milligrams would make some of these conditions like headaches and anxiety even worse. David Taylor knew that.

You heard a lot about urinalysis testing, especially from Mr. Carnesi during this trial. So let's put aside the fact that Vito was tested once in ten years. Let's put aside that his wife, Lori, was tested twice in eight years. Let's focus instead on the test results that David Taylor actually kept in his patient files and that he oftentimes signed. for some patients, the drug tests were negative for oxycodone, meaning that the oxycodone they were prescribed was not detected in their urine. In other words, they were not taking the oxycodone Taylor prescribed. Taylor knew that.

For others, the results showed oxycodone, but not noroxycodone. Dr. Gharibo explained that noroxycodone is

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what's called a metabolite of oxycodone. It's a chemical that a person's body produces when they ingest oxycodone and that should show up in their urine test if someone is actually taking the pills.

So how could a person test positive for oxycodone, and then negative for noroxycodone? You know how. As John Marino explained, Vito taught the people in his crew to crush up an oxycodone pill and put it in their samples if they were ever tested.

Now, as you heard from Dr. Gharibo, doctors are taught in medical school about metabolites and what should be in the results of a drug screening test for someone taking oxycodone. Taylor saw these results. He knew that these people were not taking oxycodone.

Let's look at an example. Lori Gallicchio did exactly what her husband advised by crushing up an oxycodone pill and dropping it in her sample. In June 2010, she took a drug test. David Taylor gets this report. It's in his file. happens?

She tests positive for oxycodone, but negative for the metabolite noroxycodone. A report that is in his chart with his signature right there. He knew that Lori Gallicchio had tampered with her urine, and he didn't care. He didn't care, and he continued prescribing 30 milligrams of oxycodone for years.

Other people in Vito's crew tested positive for medications that Taylor wasn't prescribing or for illicit drugs like cocaine. These were all test results that were in David Taylor's files, results that he reviewed and that he knew about, results that showed that these people did not need oxycodone.

It was all part of the charade. David Taylor didn't care about the results of the urine tests, but he did them for the same reason he insisted on having MRIs and x-rays in his file even if they were inconclusive. He did it to create and paper a file. He did it for a day like today.

So, if someone came asking, he could point to his file. It's what Taylor and Nicholas Avicolli discussed.

Nicholas Avicolli told you that he wanted to make sure Taylor was doing these kinds of things so that he was covering their butts.

Taylor, of course, couldn't just hand out oxycodone prescriptions, so he insisted on MRIs sometimes. He took some notes to make it look like he was taking notes and doing a real exam.

Larry Montalbano noticed that Taylor would often just copy his notes month after month. As Dr. Gharibo put it, his notes looked like they were a kind of rubber stamp. Just look at these two pages from the chart of Don Michael Carim. It's the same four lines repeated over and over for six visits in a

row: "Pain well controlled. Rotation, 60 degrees, flexion 80 percent, cervical disk disease, continued RX, signed David Taylor.

You saw how Taylor papered his chart the same day during the recording of that nonexistent examination of Brian Dolinko making references to the pain being well controlled, cervical, and lumbar disk disease. You saw the video and you know that these notes bear no resemblance to what actually happened.

Taylor wrote in John Marino's chart that he was walking with a slight limp. Marino told you that he wasn't walking with a limp, and he wasn't faking one either. This is just David Taylor covering his tracks to make it look like he was practicing real medicine, and the fact that he felt he needed to do that tells you all you need to know about his knowledge. He knew that there was no medical need for these prescriptions because he tried to make it look like there was.

Now, David Taylor knew that the huge amounts of medically unnecessary oxycodone he was prescribing, it was a problem. He was concerned that these sky high numbers would stick out to pharmacies, insurance companies, and the DEA, so he tried to hide it.

You know from Lisa Mercado that pharmacies called and wrote letters all the time questioning Taylor prescriptions or sometimes just refusing to fill them altogether. And you heard

on one of the recordings with Christine Oakes that Taylor didn't want to take on too many new patients, in his words, "'cause then the pharmacies get nervous." Of course, what he means is new patients mean more and more oxycodone, leading to more and more questions by pharmacies.

So Taylor tried to bury these oxycodone prescriptions by prescribing other medically unnecessary drugs. For example, Taylor wrote John Marino Fentanyl, which Marino didn't ask for and which Taylor didn't tell Marino how to use.

Why? What did he say to John Marino? Because pharmacies or insurance companies like to see an alternative to the oxycodone scripts.

In addition to oxycodone, Taylor also wrote Brian

Dolinko prescriptions for Soma and oxymorphone that Dolinko had

no idea he was getting. That's what Taylor did. He prescribed

drugs that patients didn't ask for, drugs that Taylor didn't

explain why he was prescribing.

He wrote Larry Montalbano prescriptions for MS Contin, a 24-hour slow release opioid. Taylor told Montalbano that he didn't care if Montalbano didn't take them. Montalbano just had to fill them. Taylor prescribed these additional drugs to make it look like he was doing something other than prescribing oxycodone to people who didn't need it.

He was trying to make his practice look more like a legitimate one, one where a doctor prescribes different drugs

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to different people. He was trying to hide what he was doing.

Nicholas Avicolli told you that there came a time when Taylor reduced the number of oxycodone pills he was prescribing to try and avoid detection by the DEA. You saw that play out in the numbers.

In the fall of 2016, Taylor dropped people in Vito's crew down to 180 pills.

Let's look.

Don Carim, fall of 2016 dropped to 180 pills.

Michael Farley, dropped to 180 pills.

Vito Gallicchio himself, dropped to 180 pills.

Robert Adams, Vito's brother, dropped to 180 pills.

Leonard Danzi, dropped to 180 pills.

Brian Dolinko, dropped to 180 pills.

Taylor dropped all these patients not because he had examined them and that they were all now in less pain, he did it because he was worried about drawing too much attention from the DEA. This was all part of a concerted effort by Taylor to try and disguise the massive amounts of medically unnecessary oxycodone he was prescribing to avoid detection.

Taylor did what he had to do to protect what mattered most to him, the easy money, visits that lasted only a few minutes, and required no more than the stroke of a pen and that could rake in thousands of dollars each day, the rent money from Vito, the \$5,000 in cash from Vito, the gifts big and

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small. You saw David Taylor receive bottles of Scotch and then talk about them on the recordings.

Did he look surprised? Did he say thank you? No.

It was expected. It was part of the deal.

It was a criminal agreement, cash and gifts for oxycodone, massive amounts of oxycodone, not human amounts of oxycodone, an agreement, one that Nicholas Avicolli told you did not require anything more between two professionals than a wink and a nod, an agreement that when David Taylor was kicked out of one of the offices that Lisa Mercado told you about, required him to stand shoulder to shoulder with his longtime partner in the drug trafficking business, Vito Gallicchio to demand his money.

It's time to hold David Taylor accountable for the crime he committed.

Return the only verdict consistent with the evidence, the law, and common sense.

David Taylor is guilty.

THE COURT: OK. Defense counsel?

(Continued on next page)

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MR. CARNESI: Yes. Thank you, your Honor.

May I?

THE COURT: Yes.

MR. CARNESI: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. week ago I stood before you upset with the idea that in this court of law we had finger-pointing and a lot of name-calling and a week later we're still at the same spot. There can point fingers and they can call names, but eventually it is up to you to evaluate the evidence. When I speak to you about the evidence, what I submit to you is evidence is the testimony, the exhibits, the things that were introduced that will help you answer what we both agree is the fundamental question. This indictment has one count and it has one question, one allegation: Did David Taylor enter into a criminal conspiracy, an agreement with other individuals, to dispense what he knew -- he knew -- was in fact unnecessary prescriptions?

Well, the first thing that I would suggest to you is obviously the agreement. I don't think anybody has to tell you what an agreement requires. It is an understanding on both sides, not just one. You can't say, Well, I had a sense of things, a wink and a nod. That doesn't get you by. Not in this court and not with these consequences. It is an agreement between at least two parties to advance to do a particular criminal act.

In an attempt to prove that agreement, what the

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government did is they produced Larry Montabano, Brian Dolinko, and John Marino. Let's start with those three. Those are three people who each came before you and testified. each, whether they knew each other or not, had one very what I submit to you is an extremely important piece of information on this issue of whether there was an agreement between Dr. Taylor and anyone else one consistent story. They each came to this court with one form or another of an agreement that they had reached with the prosecution to try and take measures to get out from under their own criminal conduct -- their own criminal conduct -- and the consequences of that conduct by helping the government in an investigation or a prosecution of some other individual.

So they came here to testify concerning Dr. Taylor to help the government. And ultimately what is it that they actually could say? We all knew Vito Gallicchio. We were all approached by Vito Gallicchio. We were all told by Vito Gallicchio that if we had some form of an injury or some medical documentation of an injury, we can make money by going to see Dr. Taylor and convincing him to write a prescription and selling it back to Vito Gallicchio. So we know they had an agreement with Vito Gallicchio.

But what happens when they go to see Dr. Taylor? Again, one consistent thing. Vito Gallicchio prepares them to lie. You got to go to Dr. Taylor and you got to tell him you

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are hurt and you are in pain. They came into the courtroom today or last week and said, Nah, I wasn't really in pain. No. my injury was really old. But it is not what they told him. What they told him is what they needed to say in order to advance their agreement with Gallicchio. Keep the old man in the dark. See if you can get over on the fool. But you want to make money with Vito? That is what it is going to depend And they all did it. Every one of them told you, Oh, no, when I went in to see the doctor, I told him, I am in pain.

Now, we can go back and forth about the medical procedure, the therapy, this and that; but one thing I may agree with with Dr. Gharibo is very simple: A patient comes in and says, I have a fever; you get a thermometer and take their temperature and you can confirm that. They come in and say, I broke my arm; you get an X ray and you can confirm that. High blood pressure? There is a machine to confirm that.

I am in excruciating pain. I can't function. I can't do my job. You can't confirm that. For good or bad to a certain extent, you're at the mercy of the patient of the person giving you the information. You can be suspect. You can try to probe at it, but ultimately pain is what the patient says he is experiencing. And the function in pain management is to reduce the pain, but also to allow the individual to be put back in a position where they can function on a daily If that requires medication, then that is the basis.

obligation -- to treat them with the medication.

As far as whether all of this was understood from the beginning, well, let's go back to Mr. Marino for a second.

Mr. Rodriguez mentioned to you, you know, Mr. Marino told him,

Tell Dr. Taylor or mention to somebody that he was recommended by Vito Gallicchio. But he went in there with a whole disc of his medical problems supporting his medical problems. He went in there and, I am an athlete and I am this; but when he was talking to the doctor, ultimately he had to say the opposite.

Of course I told the doctor I was in pain. I was there to get medication. My plan, of which the doctor was not a part of the conversation I was having with Vito, was to sell the medication to Vito; but that is what I had to do to get the medication.

The first visit, Vito's name or not, he doesn't get any medication. First visit he gets a drug test. What do you know about drug tests? Mr. Rodriguez just showed you. See, there is a drug test. If you read it this way, you see it is positive for Oxycodone and it shows negative for a number things including this product that breaks down the Oxycodone in your body.

It just occurs to me that the purpose of the drug tests, which the drug its obviously understand, is to make that determination is the patient taking it or not taking it. Look at those things. Is there an asterisks next to that finding with regard to that metabolic? Is it underlined in red? Is it

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flashing red lights saying, Whoa, wait a second. We're confirming there is Oxycodone in here, but it didn't go through his system according to this test. No, it just says along with other chemicals it is not present in there.

In Marino's situation it wouldn't have been. Marino goes back to the doctor. He is then in a position where he receives prescriptions. He out of the presence of the doctor in a separate deal with Vito Gallicchio sells his pills to Vito Gallicchio. But he was urine tested. And what you do know about urine tests? Dr. Gharibo said you are not even required -- you are not required -- to give urine tests. again when you come to this fundamental issue that you have to decide, and only you have the ability to decide this issue, of did you enter into an agreement and did he understand what Vito Gallicchio was doing, when you ask yourselves that and ask why would he then be taking this unnecessary step of requiring urinalysis?

Why would Vito Gallicchio not only have to do counseling of these individuals outside the presence and hearing of Dr. Taylor? Hey, listen you may end up with a urine test, but here is how you beat the test. I think he told Marino, Take the pill before the test. Marino, he didn't want to take one pill. He said, I wasn't going to do that. So he tells everybody else, Just grind up the pills and put it in your urine. Why? Why if everybody is in and that is the

conspiracy? Everybody understands what is going on. He is a willing participant. Why do we have to get over on him? Why are we fooling him?

Why is Denise Suarez if every patient in there understands this is Dr. Taylor and he is just going to write Oxycodone and he is a part of this criminal agreement, why are patients paying Denise Suarez not to submit their urine for analysis? Why are they telling her, No, we don't want to get tested because we don't want to get thrown out of the practice. If everybody is part of this conspiracy, why do you have to pay her? He is in on it. He is not throwing anybody out. Why?

Eventually John Marino gets tested. His urine turns up clean. He gets thrown out. He may have introduced himself as Vito's friend. He may have had something going on with Vito outside the presence of Dr. Taylor. The test comes up clean; he is out. Don't let anybody fill you with nonsense about oh, well, wait a second there was this guy in the waiting room and I think he went back and he told Vito and then Vito must have told the doctor to throw me out. No, there is no evidence of that. And the one thing you are here to do is to decide this case on evidence. So let's not let anybody fill in conversations that there were absolutely no proof of. Let's not presume that some individual had a conversation with Vito. There is no proof of that. Let's not resume that Vito had a conversation with the doctor. There is no proof of that.

Let's just confine ourselves to the evidence.

You had Lisa Ricardo. She told you initially she was doing the billing for Dr. Taylor. Then she told you that initially at least when she was doing Dr. Taylor's billing, a good portion of that billing was home visits and hospice patients. That's the background, the treatment of hospice patients, home confined patients that Dr. Taylor brings to his practice.

It is probably philosophically a great deal different than Dr. Gharibo brings to his. Dr. Gharibo has a certain approach. He spoke in the course of his expert testimony about guidelines and his guidelines in dealing with certain situations. His experience and his background is different than Dr. Taylor's. His practice, although it's what he refers to as a pain management practice and he seems to be imminently qualified of what he does, but his practical experience is five — less than 5 percent of his patients involve use of opioid treatment. Less than 5 percent. Think of your own experience and think of, I don't know, almost anything else in life where you can say, Well, I've had 5 percent experience in my life with these things.

I am a criminal defense lawyer for 40 years, but 35 years ago I did three divorces. Would you come to me as an expert divorce lawyer? I doubt it. Is there any area in life where someone says based on 5 percent practical experience, I

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am an expert in that area? I doubt it.

With regard to, again, hospice care. Dr. Gharibo referred to it. Mr. Rodriquez referred to it. It is a big difference. It is not what we're talking about at this point in this case, but it is part of the experience that goes into how an individual, a doctor, practices, what the nature of his practice is.

Ms. Mercado also told you a little bit about Dr. Taylor. Mr. Rodriguez referred to it as a dispute that they had over withholding his checks because there was an open bill regarding services or whatever. He got upset and you saw how upset she got because apparently she had had a pretty good relationship with him. She told you it seemed so out of character. He was a nice elderly man and it seemed like he was being manipulated. Well, we resolved the dispute and a couple minutes later he got his checks and a few minutes after that consistent with I think the impression that I got from her as to her relationship with the doctor is he called and apologized.

One of the other individuals we heard about rather directly from is Julio Clark. Now, Julio Clark again was another one of these individuals who was misusing his prescriptions, selling his prescriptions. He told you that at some point that there was someone in Dr. Taylor's office who was actually duplicating prescriptions. In other words, he

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would pick up a prescription for Dr. Taylor and when he went out to the front desk, somebody at the front desk had put in an additional prescription so he was walking out with two prescriptions at a time. I think this is some indication or should be considered as some indication that Dr. Taylor may not have been on top of everything that was going on in his office.

There were a lot of people as I mentioned to you in my opening statement who betrayed Dr. Taylor and who took advantage of him, people who he thought were friends of his. People like Gallicchio that offered to run around and do errands and help him paint and pick up his mail. Gallicchio is a cigar guy. He would bring him cigars. His brother had a butcher shop. I will bring you some special stakes from my brother.

The question is whether or not you believe that the doctor was taking stakes from Vito Gallicchio because he understood that he had this agreement, this criminal conspiracy with him, or was Vito Gallicchio just cozying up to the doctor to softening him up to see what he could slip by him? When you consider that, consider that Mr. Rodriguez is talking about money that was paid for office visits. Allegations. were allegations of \$5,000 cash. How do you know there was \$5,000 cash? Well, Vito Gallicchio. Vito Gallicchio didn't come in here and testify. As to all the witnesses who did, where is the opportunity to cross-examine these witnesses.

Twenty minutes ago Mr. Rodriguez showed us Vito Gallicchio's picture up here and he talked about what a despicable, miserable excuse for a human life Vito Gallicchio is. Yet at the same time because Vito Gallicchio for his own purposes may have told the story, Oh, yeah, I do this for the doctor and I do that and I had to give him \$5,000 or a paid his rent, for which there is absolutely no proof, never repeated under oath, never tested by cross-examination; but because it fits their narrative, suddenly it is the gospel according to Vito Gallicchio. Vito said it should be true. Vito if the evidence has shown anything is a drug-dealing, manipulative, miserable human being who had no problem in taking advantage of anyone that he could.

He went into a real conspiracy with Nicholas Avicolli. No doubt about that. They clearly agree that he was going to buy drugs directly off the truck essentially before they even really got into the pharmacy from Avicolli so he could sell them back on the street, and then he was robbing Avicolli as well. But because Vito said this to somebody, suddenly, oh, there's something we can rely on. It makes no sense.

Going back to Clark. Clark is one of those guys they sent him in with a bottle of scotch. What is the story with the bottle of scotch? Doc, here is a bottle of scotch which is going to influence how you treat me and what you are going to do for me. No, he says, Doc, I was down at the Army base and I

know you like this, this scotch, and they had got a good price. They have things so much cheaper so I got you a bottle of scotch. Oh, by the way, I am going through these pills too quickly, can I get more pills? Can you write me a bigger prescription for these pills. No. No. And if you are having a problem with the pills, you should consider entering into a rehab. Consistent with this conspiratorial agreement? Hardly. Consistent with the idea that my acceptance of your bottle of scotch requires me to write additional quantities of this Oxycodone to you? Apparently not.

Then you have Mr. Avicolli. Mr. Avicolli I submit to you is a case study of an individual who just refuses to accept responsibility for his own conduct. What do I mean by that? Well, he was very, very emotional on the stand. He seemed to be very upset with his situation. But how does he get into that situation? First of all, he wants to say I had other problems. I thought I had a great marriage, but apparently I had marital problem. I don't know what the marital problems are and I don't care.

And then he had these financial problems. Think about the individual who we're talking about. He has financial problems. He owns a pharmacy and he owns a catering business at that point. And he says, Well, those divorce lawyers cost me a lot of money. Maybe the pharmacy business isn't going too well, but he has two businesses. He didn't close either one of

the businesses at the time. He didn't sell either one of the businesses. He keeps two businesses.

He borrows money. He doesn't go to Bank of America or wherever to borrow this money. He goes to a loan shark.

Initially he borrows I think the figure was around

220-some-odd-thousand dollars from a loan shark. He has to

make weekly payments. They are high. They are not even

reducing the debt. That is crushing, a crushing burden on him.

But he got out of that. How? Because his family bailed him

out. His mother and father took out a reverse mortgage he said

and he had a friend. This Nick Pope. They got him out from

under this crushing burden and paid off his loan shark. He

still has his two businesses.

Then what did he do? What did he do after his family stepped up and bailed him out of that situation? He went back to the loan shark and he borrowed another half a million dollars from the loan shark. Now he has a bigger, bigger problem; but he still has the two businesses. He hadn't sold them. These businesses you wants to tell you they weren't doing that well.

Vito Gallicchio approaches him and makes this overture and says, We can make some money if you divert some of your medications to me. We can make some real money. Huh-uh, he is not sure he wants to do that. It took him about a week or two. He thought it over and he reaches out to Vito, Yeah, we can do

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business, and he does business with Vito. Big, big business. Criminal-conspiracy type business, an agreement between him and Vito. Not a wink and a nod. Not unstated. Very clearly stated. \$10 a pill. Every bottle of 100 pills yields him \$1,000.

This goes on for about somewhat less than two years. In two years Nick Avicolli pockets just from his transactions directly with Vito from the UPS truck to the pharmacy door to Vito's car a million dollars. \$1 million. Not stakes. He didn't do it for stakes. He didn't do it for scotch. He didn't do it for a refrigerator or whatever the story was with the appliances. You only know how far the story went. You know Vito went and purchased and had them shipped there. You don't know what happened after that. You don't know if he got reimbursed. You don't know whose money he used to buy them in the first place.

In any event, Avicolli got a million dollars. Vito Gallicchio, who lives in this very nice house with this backyard that is worth more than the house itself, who drives a various points in time Bentleys and Corvettes and some high-end cars for five at a time. If he is paying Avicolli a million, he is telling them at a profit. Assuming he is doubling his money, he is making at least a million on that.

You know one of the ways that they catch drug dealers? You get a guy and he says, I work at pizzeria and I make

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\$50,000 a year. Yeah, but you check and you find out he spends half a million dollars of a year. He has this source of income nobody is aware of. They told you they went to the doctor's house and they turned every upside down. They examined his financial records. They didn't find 10 cents that he made. This is an agreement, a criminal conspiracy, an agreement between the parties and somehow or another his part of the agreement was, You guys take the money and I will take the stakes and the scotch. That's what they want you to believe. Maybe he wasn't on top of his game. Not that he was trusting and not that he is too tired, but that is his part of the agreement -- you guys get the money. I will just take the scotch and the stakes.

Avicolli is pretty much in the same situation as we talked about with the others. What is the deal? He is in a lot of trouble. He is a prototype of never accepting responsibility for what he did. He got up there and cried to you. He didn't cry to you because he made a million dollars and put in his pocket. He cried to you because he got caught at it and now he is looking at -- what did he say? -- 20 years.

Now he wants to make a deal. She he makes a deal. His deal says, You have to tell the truth. But that truth -that truth -- has to help us. It has to help us to prosecute or investigate another individual. There is only one guy sitting here. So now you get this kind of testimony. Well,

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yeah, I mean Vito never told me that the doctor knew what we were doing. And I had conversations with the doctor, but I was careful not to tell him what we were doing. But, you know, it wasn't stated. It wasn't stated. It was kind of understood.

This is the evidence. This is the evidence for which they are asking you to allow them to point a finger at that man and say you are a drug dealer. Not because you agreed with Vito Gallicchio or you agreed with Nick Avicolli but because Nick Avicolli has these powers of telepathy from which he discerned, yeah, you know, he understood. He understood what it was about. I never gave him 10 cents. I never talked about all the money I was making with Vito. I never asked him what he was doing with his money or if Vito was paying him the right amount of money from his share. We never talked about anything; but nevertheless we had an agreement, an agreement sufficient to determine that we can strip this man down and call him a drug dealer.

Dr. Gharibo, we talked about him a couple minute. want to reemphasize what I think is a pretty basic point and that is that clearly he had his opinions as to what he thinks would be the appropriate medical care under the circumstances and how you must start with a particularly low dosage and then progress upwardly. How you can't keep someone on medication for an extended period of time. I just want you to remember This isn't about who is a better doctor. one thing:

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isn't about whose procedures made more sense. This is about a criminal case.

Dr. Gharibo enjoys his privilege to practice medicine in the State of New York because. He is granted a license by the Department of Health of New York State as is Dr. Taylor. The New York State Department of Health has within in it what is referred to as the Board of Professional Medical Conduct. It's not opinions. They are the board that acts on behalf of New York State to determine whether or not you are fit to practice medicine in New York State or whether or not there is a need for you to be disciplined within New York State.

What Dr. Gharibo told you is, Well, yeah, his opinion is you have to start no more than 40 milligrams a day, but that board has no such regulation. That board does not require that a doctor write less than 240 pills a month or 180 pills a That board does not say that a doctor cannot prescribe a certain type of medication for more than a year. If you think about it, there's pretty good reason for that. Because what they want to do is they want to allow a certain degree of independence, a certain degree of flexibility to the doctor -the doctor's knowledge, the doctor's experience, the doctor's interaction with the patients. So they don't want hard and fast computer rules.

You saw all these records that are all generated. simple would it be if that was the standard medical practice?

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Just think about this for a moment. Standard medical practice as Dr. Gharibo says can't, cannot, it is not medically responsible to write a prescription for more than 40 milligrams of Oxycodone a day.

So what happens? What happens with all these prescriptions now? The first prescription is written. The prescription goes out. There is a computer system. pharmacist has to file it. There is a record, John Marino received a prescription today and John Marino's prescription covered -- pick a number -- I said 40. Let's say it covered 90 milligrams a day. It's above our guideline. It goes into the computer. The computer now knows John Marino. We have no other prescriptions for him. This is the first prescription, 90 milligrams a day. Bing, bing, bing. The red flag goes off. Call the doctor. Doc, that is not a medically approved prescription. You cannot write that. It is against our regulations. It is very simple -- very simple -- thing to police.

That is not what they do. The reason they don't do it is because they want the doctors practicing medicine. They let the doctors decide and the doctors decide what Dr. Gharibo told you. If they are dealing with their own patients, let me tell you, I talk to my parents. I ask him, How often do you have the pain? What is the pain? Describe the pain. He told you despite the tests, despite whatever other things or steps we

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may take, what we rely on primarily is what the patients told That is the fundamental part of our diagnosis. us.

Think about that for a minute. That is the way he practices medicine. He will not act unless he is spoken. He will not have an opinion regarding his patient unless he has spoken to the patient. Then ask yourself, he came in, collected his check, and gave you an opinion based on 12 files of patients he never spoke to. Wouldn't do it in his practice, but he will criticize him -- he will criticize him -- because, oh, he didn't need to talk to him.

You saw little snippets of video. He commented on videos. Would you agree 100 percent. Were any of them the initial visits? No. Were they follow-ups? Essentially the follow-up. How you doing? How is the pain? Is it manageable? Medication working? Have any adverse effects? He may not have asked all those questions directly, but that is what they were about.

If I am the doctor and you are coming in to see me and you are having a problem with your medication, you are going to tell me. Doc, I cannot sleep at night when I am taking this medication. Doc, it has got me bouncing off the walls. It is this or that. If you are there what is, Yeah, it's okay? What does that mean? It means the course of treatment we're taking, it's allowing me to function. It doesn't hurt as much anymore. It is working. What else do we got to know?

It's like walking in the middle of the movies into two minutes of a snippet of a movie and figure out what happened before that. You can't. It is relevant for those two minutes for what it was, a follow-up visit, how you doing.

Well, there are things Mr. Rodriguez pointed out that he should have known. He should have been more suspicious or he should have questioned this or questioned that. Well, he is a product of his experience. He is at this point in his life a man of advanced age. It may have been an easy target. These people may have been particularly good at what they did.

You heard Christine Oakes and you heard her tape and you heard Mr. Rodriguez again. Think about Christine Oakes. Agent Del Rosario testified and he mentioned her. And that man, he is good at what he does. He is a smart, professional young man at the top of his game and his game is to be suspicious and suspect of the people he meets professionally. And he meets Christine Oakes and what does he know about Christine Oakes when he meets her? He knows she is a drug dealer. They surveilled her before he said two words to her. They caught her in drug deals. He knows she is a drug dealer.

He brings her into the office to try to speak to her and she's amenable and she wants to cooperate. She wants to make a deal because she doesn't want trouble for what she did. I don't know what her voice sounded like then. I don't know what her voice sounds like. In any event, he says to her, We

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surveilled your other drug deals. We caught you. Me? No, not We did, yeah. Here, let's go to the videotape. me.

He put it up on the tape for her. She looks at herself on the tape being video-taped in the middle of these drug deals -- multiple drug deals -- and looks the man in the eye and says, No, that's a lie. That's not me. But he decides let's make a deal with her anyway. So you know she is a drug dealer. You know she is a stone-cold liar. He made a decision, let's make a deal with her because, you know, she'll be honest with us at this point. Right? We can trust her.

What happened? Well, then you find out that she made an unauthorized visit. You weren't aware of that. She got a prescription filled. And of that bottle of 240 pills or so, 210 disappeared. 210 disappeared within days of filling that prescription. Smart, professional, certainly not gullible, at the top of his game, young, sharp man she got over on him. did. They were good. They were good at what they did. they could fool him, fooling him was not all that hard.

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. Please keep an open Hold them to their burden of proof. Thank you.

THE COURT: Any rebuttal summation?

MR. ROOS: Yes, your Honor.

Mr. Carnesi, just spent the last hour or so talking to you and trying to talk you out of your common sense. your common sense, well, it tells you that the defendant, David

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Taylor, was not running a medical practice. He was running a pill mill.

Now, you know what Mr. Carnesi didn't mention? The across-the-board pill numbers, the high maximum doses of Oxycodone. Your common sense tells you that a doctor who believes he is legitimately prescribing medicine, he is not writing prescription after prescription after prescription of 180 Oxycodone, 240 Oxycodone. An expert called this number a nonhuman dose of Oxycodone because it is so ridiculously large.

You know what else he didn't mention? The letter from the fire department where the doctor said, Hey, this guy is good enough to exercise but still just kept giving him that Oxy. Your common sense tells you that is no legitimate doctor. No legitimate doctor does that after a five-minute visit, no physical exam, no questions.

A doctor who is actually engaged in pain medicine practice doesn't give Oxycodone to a guy like Vito Gallicchio. You heard all sorts of things about this doctor being tricked. We're going to talk about that, but tricked by video, a guy who clearly didn't need the Oxycodone. No, no, your common sense tells you that is not right.

Guess what? It is not just Vito. It is Vito's wife. She got those 240 pills. It is his brother and nephew and the nephew's roommate and the driver and the driver's wife and the local pizza delivery guy. They all got 240 Oxy also, but the

doctor was tricked. That is what Mr. Carnesi is telling you.

Your common sense tells you that is not the case.

Your common sense tells you doctors don't get boxes of cigars and they don't get bottles of whiskey that can lie in their houses. They don't get refrigerators and washer and dryers.

There are not \$150 payments in cash to the doctor in the exam room or 5,000 in an envelope passed. You know what you don't hear? Rent payments. Vito Gallicchio giving out rent payments. No, your common sense tells you that is not pain management. It is called drug dealing.

This hasn't been a long trial, folks. It hasn't been a complicated one. Mr. Rodriguez summarized the evidence.

David Taylor prescribed thousands of pills of Oxycodone to people he knew did not need it. That is why he is guilty.

Now, it is the government's burden of proof in this trial. We embrace that burden. The defense doesn't have to say anything. It doesn't have to do anything. It doesn't have to make any arguments; but when they do -- and Mr. Carnesi just made a number of them -- you should scrutinize them. You should think about them carefully. What he is saying makes sense? Is it supported by the evidence?

I am not going to address everything that he said. He spoke for about an hour and frankly I don't have the time to address it, but I don't think you need me to address all of it. You paid close attention. You know the answer to many of the

Rebuttal - Mr. Roos

things he posited. He said, Well, there is a lot of things that happens when someone says the word okay. Folks, you know what the meaning of okay is. It is not a hidden meaning there. You don't need me to tell you about it.

He talked about the office staff who was actually responsible for the whole conspiracy. Folks, you know the answer there. You know there wasn't one office person who is actually behind the whole conspiracy. You don't need me to tell you that.

What I do want to talk about is a few points about the conspiracy and what the doctor knew.

(Continued on next page)

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Mr. Carnesi, well, he started out with this argument that there needs to be something more of an agreement, something more explicit than a wink and a nod. That is not right. That's actually not correct. I expect Judge Carter will instruct you that an agreement does not need to be explicit.

You should listen to Judge Carter when he gives you these instructions. It would in fact be quite unusual for an an agreement to be explicit.

Nick Avicolli, he said between two professionals you don't need to say it explicitly. There is an understanding. There is no explicit conversation that is required. They had an understanding, a wink and a nod: You write the prescription, I will fill it, we both make money.

The same was said by Larry Montalbano. He understood -- and you remember the sort of the line one hand washes the other, both hands wash the face, you do for me, I do for you.

That is an agreement. That is an understanding. Even if it were necessary for there to be an explicit agreement, you have that. You've got it. Vito told Larry I need to give \$5,000 in cash to the doctor or else we are all out of business. That is explicit.

Let me just say something about what you heard from some of these patients up there on the witness stand under oath

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about what Vito said to them.

Mr. Carnesi, you know, he's saying, well, you didn't hear from Vito, and Vito, he is a bad guy. You can't trust the things he's saying. Each of those witnesses was asked, Hey, was Vito a liar? Was he boastful?

Yeah, he's a bad guy. But did he make these things Each of them said no. Mr. Carnesi pressed them on this, up? and each time they said no.

Why would Vito make up something like I had to give \$5,000? No one wants to part with their money. Why would you brag and say he forced me to give \$5,000 or else we would all be kicked out?

It doesn't make sense. That's why you know they are telling the truth.

There are some other reasons why you know the witnesses are telling the truth. Their incentives, their incentives to tell the truth. You have heard about that. There's other evidence that shows they are telling the truth. For instance, when they say we gave gifts. Vito gave a refrigerator. He told me. Folks, you saw the receipt from the refrigerator. You saw the receipt for the washer dryer purchased by Vito shipped to David Taylor.

You don't need to rely solely on the witnesses you There is evidence that backs up what they say. heard. Mr. Carnesi, he spent the majority of his time talking about

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how the doctor, well, he was tricked. He was duped.

Really? Do you believe this story? This is all happening right in front of Dr. Taylor, and he didn't know. According to Mr. Carnesi, basically a doctor needs the equivalent of a Price is Right, where you've got lights flashing and everyone then is alerted to the red flags that are right in front of them.

Your common sense tells you that's not the case. And Mr. Rodriguez went through all of the evidence of why the doctor knew exactly what was going on, so I am not going to go through it all. I don't need to waste your time with that.

But you know what I do want to point out? You know who wasn't tricked? The patients. They said it was known if you wanted oxy, you go to Dr. Taylor. They knew why everyone in the exam room was there, to get oxycodone.

Who else wasn't tricked?

The office manager, Lisa Mercado. No medical training, didn't work with the doctor for that long, but she sees it like it is. There is a lot of diversion and a lot of addicts in the waiting room.

Who else? The pharmacist, Nick Avicolli. He said just the way they walked in was a clue. The way they spoke. The fact that they said, How's the day going? Let's talk about the Yankees. Those were clear signs to him that they didn't need those pills.

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Then, of course, the other pharmacists and the insurance companies that were sending letters and putting Dr. Taylor on the banned list. It was clear to them. wasn't clear to this guy. That's what you are hearing here. Folks, that's ridiculous. It's clearly ridiculous.

You know, Mr. Carnesi said you are at the mercy of these patients when you're the doctor, and that's not right. That's contrary to your common sense. Dr. Gharibo said you don't just take their word for everything. You run advanced diagnostic tests, look at the chart, you ask probing questions. You don't just say, How you doing? OK. 180 oxy.

But you don't need an expert to tell you those things. You don't need an expert to say what is already intuitive to you. You don't need an expert also to tell you that this was not a medical practice, and you don't need an expert to say you have got to do some type of physical exam. You should ask questions about the pain, you should consider doing an MRI, you should prescribe something other than a painkiller that is the equivalent of heroin, and maybe you shouldn't take gifts and cash and money and all of these things.

That's why this is not a medical practice.

Now, Mr. Carnesi called out a few of patients. not going to go through all of them, but I want to make a few observations.

John Marino, football player, basketball player, mixed

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martial arts, goes to the gym five nights a week. This is not the type of person who needs oxycodone, and Dr. Taylor knew that just from how he presented.

But what did he write in the chart? Limp. That tells you something. You don't make up things and put them in a chart unless the whole thing is a giant charade.

Who was John Marino's roommate? That is somebody you didn't hear about. It's Don Carim. And Don Carim is the one who got the letter from the New York City Fire Department, because he's able to run a mile and a half and sure can do some pushups, but in the months after he writes that letter, he keeps giving him oxycodone.

I want to say a few words about urinalysis testing.

Number one, don't get distracted. The urine testing is just a small part of a much larger issue in this case, which is that these prescriptions were not medically necessary. think about the things that Mr. Carnesi did tell you about the urine tests. Even if he can or can't understand what noroxycodone metabolites are, it doesn't matter, but there are urine tests that showed people testing negative for oxycodone.

There were urine tests showing Don Carim testing positive for cocaine; people testing positive for drugs this doctor wasn't prescribing. That tells you something. You don't need to go to medical school to know that. Although, hey, we heard you learned this thing about the metabolites in

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the second year of medical school.

And you know what else? Those urinalysis charts -and they are in evidence, you can take a look at them -- they say in block letters review, and right next to it the doctor's signature.

So don't get hoodwinked into this idea that the urine tests matter or that somehow somebody manipulated a urine test and that makes a difference. By the way, the testimony or the stipulation about that woman, Denise Suarez, is that she didn't even do that for Vito's patients.

Let me say a word about the law here. Judge Carter will instruct you about the law that applies in this case. He's going to tell you there are two ways you can find the defendant guilty of the conspiracy.

The first, he knew that the prescriptions he was writing weren't medically necessary. That's been proven. You know that.

The second is that he can deliberately shut his eyes to what otherwise would be obvious. That's called conscious avoidance, willful blindness. If Dr. Taylor was aware that it was very likely that his prescriptions weren't medically necessary and he just kept writing them anyways while deliberately avoiding confirming, learning that they weren't necessary, then that is another way he's guilty.

> You heard a bunch of evidence about that, too. There

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are all these red flags right in front of him and he deliberately avoided confirming the fact that Vito's crew didn't need the pills. He didn't examine them, he didn't urine test them, he ignored their bad urine tests, he didn't ask them if they were taking the pills. Why not? He avoided asking those questions because if he did, he would have confirmed what he already knew: These people didn't need the oxy.

Common sense doesn't get checked at the door of the examining room. That's why you know that the doctor knew. Don't let Mr. Carnesi convince you to check your common sense at the door of the courtroom.

Mr. Carnesi, well, he made a point about the experts. The expert, you know, he has a practice that's sort of what we would dream of for a medical practice. But you know the doctor was doing things different. The doctor sort of was doing hospice.

You know this doesn't make any sense. First of all, Vito's people, not in hospice. None of them are dying. know that because Vito gets his pills for a decade, 240, 180 for a decade. The same with his wife, the same with his nephew, the same with his nephew's roommate, the same with the pizza guy.

It's not about who's a better doctor. We agree about This is a criminal case. This wasn't about mistakes in that. prescribing. This doctor was selling pills out of his office

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with a prescription pad.

So let me talk about what he was getting. Defense counsel, he sort of belittles this and he says, you know what, steaks and cigars, really? Like he sells his medical practice out for steaks and cigars?

You know it is more than that. Dr. Taylor, he needed the business. You heard the testimony. He got kicked out of one medical practice, and he needed Vito's help to start a new one, to pay the rent, to draw in the patients. That's his motive. The more patients, the more business, the more money.

Vito brought the people to him. That's why it made sense.

The same way for Nick Avicolli. It made sense to have a volume business, the more people bringing in prescriptions. It made since for the doctor.

just think about the math a little bit. Taylor, he charged something like 50 to 150 per visit, right? You saw the chart that said he wrote 20,000 oxycodone prescriptions.

So do the math. 20,000 visits. Now, not all of those are Vito's crew, but you saw evidence of hundreds if not thousands of them were Vito's crew. That's a lot of money. Let's say a hundred dollars times a thousand or 20,000 if they're all bad prescriptions. That's millions.

That's why it made good financial sense for Taylor to turn his practice into a pill mill. That's not even counting

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the side payments that Vito made.

There are other bribes, some big, some small, like a TV, a washer dryer, refrigerator, whisky, cigars, steaks, chicken parm.

It is not just about the steaks and cigars. It is a cash business. It makes good financial sense. And, hey, once you sold your business out, at that point you might as well just ask whatever else you want. The extra perks, the chicken parm, the steaks, cigars. Vito's living a good life. The doctor wants it too. That's why when he wants something he gets it.

I am going to sit down in just a moment. You have heard enough talking from the lawyers today. You have paid very close attention. We appreciate that. You have seen the evidence. You have heard the witnesses.

So, let me just leave you with this: Just because a case goes to trial doesn't make it hard. It doesn't make it complicated. It doesn't make it close. This is not a close case.

You know what happened. David Taylor flooded the streets with a highly addictive, powerful drug, a drug similar to heroin that destroys lives. Why he did it doesn't really matter. What matters is that there was no medical reason for it. He wrote prescriptions for oxycodone that people did not need, and he knew it.

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He knew it, but he kept prescribing them anyways.

This was all choice. He wasn't tricked. He wasn't It wasn't a giant conspiracy against Dr. Taylor. was part of the conspiracy. He was part of the conspiracy with Vito and his crew, and he did very well by it and he did it for vears.

It was destructive. Its effects are tragic. That's why it's a crime. He knew what he was doing, and now it's time to hold him accountable for what he's done. He's quilty.

THE COURT: OK, members of the jury. We are going to take our break for 30 minutes. Don't discuss this case amongst yourselves, don't discuss it with anyone else, and don't let anyone discuss it with you. Don't conduct any independent research regarding any of the issues, parties, and locations in this case. See you in 30 minutes.

(Jury not present)

THE COURT: OK. I will see counsel in 30 minutes.

One other thing. You can all sit down. One of the things I guess we should discuss. Let me tell counsel what my intentions are with the alternates, and then I will hear from counsel.

My intention is to not dismiss the alternates from jury duty, but allow them to leave and go home and give them the instructions we've always been giving them not to discuss this case with anyone and not conduct any research. That way,

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Ic4ntay3 Rebuttal - Mr. Roos

if we need them at some point to substitute for one of the deliberating jurors, they can. Defense counsel or the government have any position on that? Any objection to that rather?

MS. FLETCHER: No objection.

MR. CARNESI: No objection, Judge.

THE COURT: OK. See you in 30.

(Luncheon recess)

Ic4ntay3 Rebuttal - Mr. Roos

1 AFTERNOON SESSION 2 (12:25 p.m.) 3 4 THE COURT: I didn't get any comments from counsel regarding a verdict form. Here's a copy of the verdict form, 5 6 if someone can come get it and share it with counsel. 7 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Your Honor, I have taken the verdict form from you which we previously received from your chambers. 8 9 We have reviewed it and have no comments on it. 10 I will hand the copy that the Court gave me to defense 11 counsel. 12 MR. CARNESI: It is fine. 13 THE COURT: The other thing I will let you know. Ι 14 don't plan on reading the captions for the preliminary portions 15 of the instructions. I will certainly read the captions when we get to the substantive law in this area, but I am not going 16 17 to read the captions for things such as role of the jury role of the Court, evidence and so forth. 18 Any objection to that by either side. 19 20 MR. RODRIGUEZ: No objection. 21 MR. CARNESI: No objection. 22 THE COURT: All right. 23 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Your Honor, can I raise one question?

MR. RODRIGUEZ: The government is sort of inquiring

THE COURT:

Sure.

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that they wants to do.

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what the Court's plan is with respect to how long the jury can be deliberating today, if the Court is going to send the jury home at 3 o'clock as we have been doing, or you are going to give the jury the option of staying later if that is something

THE COURT: Here's what my thoughts are, and I will hear from counsel. My thoughts are we would dismiss them at 3 o'clock; however, make ourselves available until 5 o'clock if the jury sends us some sort of note indicating that they would like to deliberate longer today. We can do that. But other than that, it would be my intention to simply dismiss them at 3 o'clock, as we have been doing. I don't want to just volunteer to them before they ask anything that we can stay a little bit longer today. I don't want do anything like that.

What are counsel's thoughts on that?

MR. CARNESI: That is fine with me.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: So, your Honor, just to be clear, I am not quite sure I understood. It sound like the Court's intention is, if the jury asks to stay later, we would make ourselves available to do that until 5 o'clock.

THE COURT: Correct.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: But the Court would in the first instance tell them we are being dismissed at 3?

THE COURT: I don't plan on telling them anything. plan on, once they start deliberating, they deliberate. At 3

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o'clock, if we haven't heard anything from them, it would be my intention to bring them out and dismiss them.

What may happen is, if they want to stay later, perhaps at 2:52 or 2:53 they will send out a note saying they would like to stay later; or, if they come out at 3 o'clock and I say we are going to dismiss you for the day and people start raising their hands and say, Oh, we'd like to stay longer, then we can deal with that. If they ask to say longer, I would consult with counsel, but it would be my intention to let them know we available to you until 5 p.m. today.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: Understood, your Honor. respectfully it would be the government's preference for the Court to inform the jurors of that potential option rather than, you know, see if there is a possibility of getting a note, which they may not know that the option is available or them otherwise signaling from the jury box, but making clear that the government would have no objection if the Court made clear that we have been dismissing every day at 3 o'clock and so if not everyone is available to stay until 5, that is certainly fine. But it would be the government's preference to flag that potential option for the jury in some way.

THE COURT: My concern, and again I will hear from defense counsel on this in a second, is that we have been dismissing them at 3 o'clock every day. If all of a sudden today we suggest to them that they have the option of staying

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Rebuttal - Mr. Roos

until 5, I'm concerned that that may be putting just a slight bit of pressure on them to think that, oh, we need to come up with a verdict by 5 o'clock today, especially if there are jurors who have other situations and they have to adjust schedules.

I would rather them do that on their own, voluntarily say to us they would like to stay later than to suggest something to them once they start their deliberations. I think that that could be seen as putting a little bit of pressure on them, and I don't want to do that.

What's defense counsel's view on that?

MR. CARNESI: I agree with that the Court on that.

THE COURT: Again, as we've seen from this jury, they don't strike me as particularly shy, but we'll see.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: Understood, your Honor. government doesn't necessarily see that risk, but we have no objection to proceeding that way.

THE COURT: OK. The jurors do know that the plan is that we will not be sitting tomorrow. They know that. So that may be another reason why they might on their own suggest to us that we stay late, and, if so, we can do that.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: Understood. Thank you.

THE COURT: I don't want to suggest that to them in the first instance.

Is the jury ready, Tara.

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THE DEPUTY CLERK: Yes, Judge.

THE COURT: Bring them in.

(Jury present)

THE COURT: Please be seated.

I am going to now give you the instructions on the It's important that you listen to my instructions but you don't need to take notes, because when you start your deliberations each of you is going to be given a written copy of these instructions.

It is my duty at this point to instruct you on the It is your duty to accept these instructions and apply them to the facts as you determine them. Regardless of any opinion you may have as to what the law may be or should be, it would violate your duty to base a verdict on any other view of the law than the one I give you. If an attorney has stated a legal principle differently than I state it to you, it is my instructions that you must follow.

You should not single out any instruction, but you should consider my instructions as a whole when you retire to deliberate the verdict. You may take a copy of these instructions with you into the jury room.

Your role is to decide the facts of the case. You are the sole and exclusive judges of the facts. You must determine the facts based solely on the evidence received in this trial. In determining the facts, you must rely upon your own

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recollections of the evidence. What the lawyers have said, for instance, in opening statements, in closes arguments, in objections, or in questions is not evidence. You should bear in mind particularly that a question put to a witness is not evidence. It is only the answer that is evidence.

The lawyers' arguments are intended to convince you to draw certain conclusions from the evidence or lack of evidence. Those arguments are important. You should weigh and evaluate them carefully, but you must not confuse them with the evidence. As to what the evidence was, it is your recollection that governs, not the statements of the lawyers. You should draw no inference or conclusion for or against any party by reason of the lawyers' making objections or my rulings on those objections.

The attorneys have a duty to make legal objections when they think that such objections are appropriate. You should not be swayed against the government or the defendant simply because counsel for either side has chosen to make an objection. Similarly, statements made by counsel when arguing the admissibility of evidence are not to be considered as evidence.

I remind you also that nothing I have said during the trial or during these instructions is evidence. Similarly, the rulings I have made during the trial are not any indication of my views of what your decision should be. My rulings were

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based solely on issues of law. Do not concern yourselves with what was said at sidebar conferences or during my discussions with counsel. Those discussions related to rulings of law and not to matters of fact.

The law recognizes two types of evidence, direct and circumstantial. You may rely on either type of evidence. Direct evidence is evidence that, if believed, directly shows a fact. For instance, one kind of direct evidence is a witness's testimony about something she knows by virtue of her own senses, something the witness has seen, felt touched or heard. Direct evidence may also be in the form of an exhibit.

Circumstantial evidence is a chain of circumstances that indirectly proves a fact. Stated differently, circumstantial evidence is a fact or series of facts that, if believed, leads to a conclusion that another fact exists. example, if a witness testified that she saw it raining outside, and you believed her, that would be direct evidence it was raining. If someone walked into the courtroom wearing a raincoat covered with drops of water and carrying a wet umbrella, that would be circumstantial evidence from which you could conclude it was raining.

Circumstantial evidence is as valuable as direct The law makes no distinction between them. evidence. are times when different inferences may be drawn from the facts whether they are proven by direct or circumstantial evidence.

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The government asks you to draw one set of inferences. defendants ask you to draw another. It is for you, and you alone, to decide what inferences you will draw.

Much of the evidence you heard was presented to you in the form of testimony from witnesses. First, let me remind you that it is for you, and you alone, to decide the credibility of witnesses who appeared here and the weight their evidence deserves. Your determination of the credibility of a witness largely depends upon the impression the witness made upon you as to whether or not he or she was giving an accurate version of what occurred.

The degree of credit given to a witness should be determined by his or her demeanor, relationship to the controversy and the parties, bias or impartiality, the reasonableness of the witness's statement, the strength or weakness of the witness's recollection viewed in light of all other testimony, and the attendant circumstances in the case. In passing upon the credibility of a witness, you may also take into account any inconsistencies or contradictions as to material matters in his or her testimony.

You may consider whether a witness had, or did not have, a motive to lie. If a witness had a motive to lie, you may consider whether and to what extent, if any, that motive affected the truthfulness of that witness's testimony. witness did not have a motive to lie, you may consider that as

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well in evaluating the witness's truthfulness.

If you find that any witness has willfully testified falsely as to any material fact, you have the right to reject the testimony of that witness in its entirety. On the other hand, even if you find that a witness has testified falsely about one matter, you may reject as false that portion of his or her testimony and accept as true any other portion of his or her testimony. A witness may be inaccurate, contradictory, or even untruthful in some aspects, and yet be truthful and entirely credible in other aspects of his or her testimony.

The ultimate question for you to decide in passing upon credibility is, did the witness tell the truth before you? It is for you to say whether his or her testimony at trial is truthful in whole or in part in light of the witness's demeanor and explanations and all of the evidence in the case.

In evaluating the credibility of witnesses, you should take into account any evidence that the witness who testified may benefit in some way from the outcome of this case. Such an interest in the outcome creates a motive to testify falsely, and may sway the witness to testify in a way that advances his or her own interest. Therefore, if you find that any witness whose testimony you are considering may have an interest in the outcome of this trial, then you should bear that factor in mind when evaluating his or her credibility and accept it with great care.

This is not to suggest that every witness who has an interest in the outcome of a case will testify falsely. It is for you to decide to what extent, if at all, a witness's interest has affected or colored his or her testimony.

You've heard evidence that, at some earlier time, witnesses have said or done something that counsel argues is inconsistent with their trial testimony. Evidence of a prior inconsistent statement was placed before you only for the purpose of helping you to decide whether to believe the testimony of a witness who may have contradicted a prior statement he or she made. If you find that the witness made an earlier statement that conflicts with the witness's testimony, you may consider that fact in deciding how much of the witness's testimony, if any, to believe.

In making this determination, you may consider whether the witness purposely made a false statement or whether it was an innocent mistake; whether the inconsistency concerns an important fact or whether it had to do with a small detail; whether the witness an explanation for the inconsistency and whether that explanation appealed to your common sense.

It is exclusively your duty, based upon all the evidence and your own good judgment, to determine whether the prior statement was inconsistent, and if so, how much, if any, weight to give to the inconsistent statement in determining whether to believe all or part of the witness's testimony.

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Some of you took notes periodically throughout this trial. I want to emphasize to you that notes are simply an aid to your memory. Notes that you may have made should not be given greater weight or influence than the recollections or impressions of other jurors with respect to the evidence presented or what conclusions, if any, should be drawn from such evidence. All jurors' recollections are equal.

Some of the exhibits received in evidence at this trial were in the form of charts. Some of those charts were introduced as summaries. Summary charts are not themselves direct evidence. They are instead summaries or analyses of evidence that was received either in the form of documents or testimony. The charts were intended to assist you in your deliberations. However, it is the underlying evidence and the weight that you attribute to it that gives value and significance to these charts. To the extent that the charts conform to what you determine the underlying evidence to be, you should accept them. To the extent that the charts differ from what you determine the underlying evidence to be, you may reject them.

You are to perform the duty of finding the facts without bias or prejudice as to any party. You are to perform your final duty in an attitude of complete fairness and impartiality.

The case is important to the government, for the

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Rebuttal - Mr. Roos

enforcement of criminal laws is a matter of prime concern to the community. Equally, it is important to the defendant, who is charged with a serious crime.

The fact that the prosecution is brought in the name of the United States of America entitles the government to no greater consideration than that given to any other party. By the same token, the government is entitled to no less consideration.

The indictment is not evidence. It is an accusation, a statement of what the government intends to prove by offering evidence at trial. It gives the defendant notice of the charges against him and states the nature of the accusations.

Because the indictment is not evidence and does not prove guilt, you are to give it no weight. Nor are you to attempt to consider how the indictment was obtained. A defendant begins trial with a clean slate and without any evidence against him or her. What matters is the evidence that you heard and saw during the trial.

The defendant is formally charged in an indictment. The indictment consists of charges or accusations. It is not evidence. I will not read the entire indictment to you at this time. Rather, I will first summarize the offense charged in the indictment. Then I will explain in detail the elements of the offense.

Before I do so, however, I need to define the term

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reasonable doubt. The government must prove each element of the crime beyond a reasonable doubt. Since, in order to convict the defendant of a given charge, the government is required to prove that charge beyond a reasonable doubt, the question then is, what is a reasonable doubt? The words almost define themselves. It is a doubt based upon reason. It is a doubt that a reasonable person has after carefully weighing all of the evidence. It is a doubt that would cause a reasonable person to hesitate to act in a matter of importance in his or her personal life. Proof beyond a reasonable doubt must, therefore, be proof of a convincing character that a reasonable person would not hesitate to rely upon in making an important decision.

A reasonable doubt is not caprice or whim. It is not speculation or suspicion. It is not an excuse to avoid the performance of an unpleasant duty. The law does not require that the government prove guilt beyond all possible doubt. Proof beyond a reasonable doubt is sufficient to convict.

If, after fair and impartial consideration of the evidence, you have a reasonable doubt as to the defendant's quilt, you must find the defendant not quilty.

On the other hand, if, after fair and impartial consideration of all the evidence, you are satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt of the defendant's quilt, you should find the defendant guilty.

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Having defined reasonable doubt, let me discuss the The indictment charges that the defendant, David charge. Taylor, conspired with others known and unknown to violate the federal narcotics laws in violation of Section 846 of Title 21 of the United States Code. Specifically, the indictment charges the defendant with conspiring to distribute and possess with the intent to distribute oxycodone, which is a controlled The conspiracy charged in the indictment is alleged substance. to have taken place from at least in or around January 2012 up to and including in or around June 2017.

Narcotics conspiracy -- elements of the offense.

In order to find David Taylor quilty of the conspiracy charged in the indictment, you must find that the government has proven beyond a reasonable doubt each of the following two elements of the crime:

First, the existence of the conspiracy charged in the indictment; in other words, that there was in fact an agreement or understanding to violate those provisions of the law that make it illegal to distribute narcotics;

Second, the defendant, David Taylor, knowingly became a member of the conspiracy; that is, that he knowingly associated himself with the conspiracy and participated in the conspiracy to distribute narcotics.

> The first element -- existence of a conspiracy. The first element that the government must prove

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beyond a reasonable doubt is the existence of the conspiracy; that is, the government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that two or more persons came to an agreement or understanding that would try to accomplish an unlawful purpose. In this case, the conspiracy charged is a conspiracy to distribute oxycodone.

In order for the government to satisfy this element, you need not find that the alleged members of the conspiracy met together and entered into any express or formal agreement.

Similarly, you need not find that the alleged conspirators stated in words or writing what the scheme was, its object or purpose, or every precise detail of the scheme or the means by which its object or purpose was to be accomplished. Indeed, it would be extraordinary if there were such a formal document or specific oral agreement. When people agree to enter into a criminal conspiracy, much is left to unexpressed understanding. What the government must prove is that there was a mutual understanding, either spoken or unspoken, between two or more people to cooperate with each other to accomplish an unlawful act.

You may, of course, find that the existence of an agreement to disobey or disregard the law has been established by direct evidence. However, since conspiracy is by its very nature characterized by secrecy, you may also infer its existence from the circumstances of this case and the conduct

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of the parties involved.

It is not required that any particular number of people join together in order for the government to prove that a conspiracy existed. You need only find that two or more people entered into the unlawful agreement alleged in the indictment in order for you to find that a conspiracy existed. In a very real sense then in the context of conspiracy cases, actions often speak louder than words. In this regard, you may, in determining whether an agreement existed here, consider the actions and statements of all of those you find to be participants as proof that a common design existed on the part of the persons charged to act together to accomplish an unlawful purpose.

Often, the only evidence available is that of disconnected acts that, when taken together in connection with each other, show a conspiracy or agreement to secure a particular result as satisfactorily and conclusively as more direct proof.

Of course, proof concerning the accomplishment of the objectives of the conspiracy may be the most persuasive evidence of the existence of the conspiracy itself. But it is not necessary that the conspiracy actually succeed in its purpose in order for you to conclude that the conspiracy existed.

In short, as far as the first element of the

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conspiracy is concerned, the government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant and at least one other alleged -- I'm sorry. The government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant and at least one other alleged conspirator came to a mutual understanding, either spoken or unspoken, to violate the law in the manner charged in the indictment.

Object of the conspiracy.

As I have just described, the prosecution must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant and at least one other alleged conspirator came to a mutual understanding, either spoken or unspoken, to distribute a controlled substance in the manner charged in the indictment. The second part of the first element relates to the object or objective of the conspiracy. The object of a conspiracy is the illegal goal the coconspirators agree or hope to achieve. The indictment charges that the object of the conspiracy was the distribution of a controlled substance, which in this case was oxycodone.

"Distribution" means to deliver to pass over, to hand over something to another person or to cause something to be delivered, passed on, or handed over to another. Distribution does not require a sale, but the term includes sales.

Note, however, that the actual quantity of oxycodone involved in the charged conspiracy is not an element of this So you need not be concerned with quantity in crime.

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determining whether the defendant is quilty or not quilty of the charge. Similarly, because quantity is not an element, you need not find that every -- or even a majority -- of the prescriptions written by the defendant were written as a part of the charged conspiracy.

As you have heard, oxycodone may be lawfully dispensed for certain prescribed purposes, but because of its highly addictive qualities, it is otherwise prohibited from being dispensed. A doctor who acts outside the usual course of professional practice and knowingly prescribes oxycodone for no legitimate medical purpose may be found quilty of unlawful distribution. On the other hand, a doctor who in good faith writes prescriptions for controlled substances such as oxycodone in the regular course of legitimate professional practice does not violate the laws. Good faith in this context means the honest exercise of best professional judgment.

In determining whether a doctor acted without a legitimate medical purpose, you should examine all of the doctor's actions and the circumstances surrounding them. example, if a doctor prescribes a drug for the purpose of improving a patient's health or addressing a legitimate medical need, you may consider this as proof that the doctor was prescribing the drug lawfully in the usual course of professional medical practice and for a legitimate medical purpose. On the other hand, if a doctor prescribes a

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controlled substance with knowledge that the drug was not being prescribed for a purpose of improving the patient's health or addressing a legitimate medical need or with the knowledge that the recipient of the drug was going to resell it, this may suggest to you that the doctor was acting outside the usual course of professional medical practice and not for a legitimate medical purpose.

These examples are neither conclusive or exhaustive. They are simply meant to give you an idea of the kind of behavior from which you might conclude that a doctor was not prescribing drugs for a legitimate medical purpose and was not acting in the usual course of professional medical practice.

Thus, the government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the object of the conspiracy in which the defendant is charged was to distribute some amount of oxycodone or to cause an amount of oxycodone to be distributed other than for a legitimate medical purpose, other than in good faith, and not in the usual course of medical practice.

Conscious avoidance.

In determining whether the government has proved beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant knew that the object of the conspiracy was the distribution of oxycodone using prescriptions that were written outside the usual course of a medical practice and that were not written for a legitimate medical purpose, you may consider whether the

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defendant deliberately closed his eyes to what would otherwise have been obvious. One may not willfully and intentionally remain ignorant of a fact important to one's conduct in order to escape the consequences of criminal law. The law calls this "conscience avoidance" or "willful blindness." In other words, the government can prove either that the defendant actually knew the objective of the conspiracy or he consciously avoided knowledge of the object of the conspiracy.

Acts done knowingly must be a product of a person's conscious intentions. They cannot be the result of carelessness, negligence, or foolishness. But a person may not willfully and intentionally remain ignorant of a fact that is material and important to his or her conduct in order to escape the consequences of criminal law. We refer to this notion of intentionally blinding yourself to what is staring you in the face as conscious avoidance.

An argument by the government of conscious avoidance is not a substitute for proof of knowledge. It is simply another factor that you, the jury, may consider in deciding what a defendant knew. Thus, if you find beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant was aware that there was a high probability that a fact was so, but that the defendant deliberately and consciously avoided confirming this fact, such as by purposely closing his or her eyes to it or intentionally failing to investigate it, then you may treat this deliberate

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avoidance of positive knowledge as the equivalent of knowledge.

That being said, you must also keep in mind that there is an important difference between knowingly and intentionally participating in the conspiracy -- which I will explain to you shortly -- and knowing the specific objective of the conspiracy. You may consider conscious avoidance in deciding whether a defendant knew the objective of the conspiracy, that is, whether he reasonably believed that there was a high probability that a goal of the conspiracy was to commit the crime charged as the object of the conspiracy, but deliberately avoided confirming that fact and participated in the conspiracy anyway. Conscious avoidance, however, cannot be used as a substitute for finding that the defendant knowingly and intentionally joined the conspiracy in the first place. It is logically impossible for a defendant to intend and agree to join a conspiracy if he does not actually know it exists. On the other hand, if you find beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant knowingly chose to participate in such a joint undertaking, you may consider whether the defendant deliberately avoided confirming otherwise obvious facts about the purpose of that undertaking.

In sum, if you find that the defendant believed there was a high probability that a fact was so and that the defendant deliberately and consciously avoided learning the truth of that fact, you may find that the defendant acted

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knowingly with respect to that fact. Conversely, if you find that the defendant actually believed the fact was not so, then you may not find that he acted knowingly with respect to that fact. You must judge from all the circumstances and all the proof whether the government did or did not satisfy its burden of proof beyond a reasonable doubt.

Good faith.

Let me advise you that a defendant's good faith is a complete defense to the charge in this case. A doctor who in good faith prescribes drugs in the regular course of a legitimate professional practice is protected from conviction. A doctor acts in good faith when he or she is engaged in the honest exercise of professional judgment and acts with a reasonable belief as to proper medical practice.

The burden of establishing criminal intent and lack of good faith rests upon the government. A defendant is under no burden to prove his or her good faith. Rather, the government must prove bad faith and an intent to unlawfully distribute oxycodone.

Second element -- membership.

If you find beyond a reasonable doubt that the conspiracy existed, you must determine separately whether the defendant was a member of that conspiracy. You must determine not only whether the defendant participated in the conspiracy, but also whether he did so knowingly and intentionally; that

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is, he participated in the conspiracy with knowledge of its unlawful purpose and with the specific intention of furthering the charged objective that you have agreed was the goal of that conspiracy.

"Intentionally" and "knowingly" defined.

The terms "intentionally" and "knowingly" mean that you must be satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that in joining the conspiracy, if you find that the defendant did join the conspiracy, the defendant knew what he was doing, that he took the actions in question deliberately and voluntarily. Knowledge is a matter of inference from the facts proved.

The defendant need not know the full extent of the conspiracy or know all of the activities of the conspiracy, or even who all of the coconspirators are. Indeed, a single fact may be enough to bring the defendant within the membership of the conspiracy, provided that the defendant was aware of the conspiracy and knowingly associated himself with its criminal objective.

Of course, mere association with a conspirator or a mere presence at a place where a conspiracy is going on does not make someone a member of the conspiracy. Nor is knowledge without participation sufficient. What is necessary is that the defendant participated with knowledge of the unlawful object of the conspiracy and with intent to aid in the accomplishment of that end.

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If you find that the conspiracy existed and that the defendant participated knowingly and intentionally in it, the extent of the defendant's participation has no bearing on whether or not he is guilty.

The fact that the defendant's participation in a conspiracy was more limited than that of a coconspirator should not affect your verdict. It is not necessary for the government to show that the defendant received or anticipated any financial benefit from his participation in the conspiracy, so long as he participated in it in the way that I have explained.

The question is, has the government proven beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant joined the conspiracy and knowingly and intentionally participated in it with the awareness of its basic purpose and as something he wished to bring about?

Time of conspiracy.

If you find that the defendant was a knowing and intentional participant in the conspiracy, the point at which the defendant joined the conspiracy is not relevant to your decision.

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THE COURT: The defendant may join a conspiracy at any point during its progress and be held responsible for all that went on before he joined and all that occurs thereafter. With respect to the time period for the conspiracy alleged in the time, it is sufficient if you find that the defendant was a member of the conspiracy for some time within the period of in or around January 2012 through on or about June 2017.

In making this determination, you should bear in mind that once you find that a person has knowingly and intentionally participated in a conspiracy to violate the law for some time within the period charged, he is presumed to continue as a member of the conspiracy unless he proves that he took affirmative steps to withdraw from the conspiracy or that he conspiracy ended.

Liability for acts and declarations of coconspirators. When people enter into a conspiracy to accomplish and unlawful end, they become agents or partners of one another in carrying out the conspiracy. In determining the facts, you may consider any acts or statements made by any of the people that you find to have been coconspirators even though such acts or statements were not made in the defendant's presence or with the defendant's knowledge.

Concluding instructions: Venue. In addition to evaluating the elements of each offense, you must also consider the issue of venue as to each offense. The government must

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establish what is called venue, which means that some act in furtherance of that charge occurred in the Southern District of New York. The Southern District of New York includes Manhattan, the Bronx, Westchester, Dutchess, Putnam, Orange, Sullivan, and Rockland counties, the waterways surrounding those counties including the East River, the Hudson River, the Arthur Kill, and Kill van Kull, and all the bridges that traverse those waterways, including the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, which traverses the Narrows, the body of water separating Staten Island and Brooklyn; and the Bayonne Bridge which traverses the Kill van Kull, the body of water separating Staten Island and Bayonne, New Jersey; the Goethals Bridge, which transfers the Kill van Kull, the body of water separating Staten Island and Elizabeth, New Jersey; and Outerbridge Crossing, which traverses the Arthur Kill, the body of water of separating Staten Island and Perth Amboy, New Jersey.

Venue is proven if any act in furtherance of the crime you are considering occurred in the Southern District of New York regardless of whether it was the act of the defendant or anyone else. Furthermore, on the issue of venue only, the government can meet its burden by a preponderance of the evidence rather than proof beyond a reasonable doubt. That means the government can meet its burden by showing that it was more likely than not that an act in furtherance of a given crime occurred in the Southern District of New York.

Uncalled witness equally available. There are several people whose names you have heard during the course of the trial, but who did not appear here to testify. Both the government and the defendant have the same power to subpoena witnesses to testify on their behalf. If a potential witness could have been called by the government or by a defendant and no one called the witness, then you may draw the conclusion that the testimony of the absent witness might have been unfavorable to the government or to the defendant or to both. On the other hand, you may choose to draw no inference at all from the failure of either side to call a witness.

You should remember that there is no duty on either side to call a witness whose testimony would be merely cumulative of testimony already in evidence or who would merely provide additional testimony to facts already in evidence.

You should also remember that the law does not impose on a defendant in a criminal case the burden or duty of calling any witness or producing any evidence.

Law enforcement and government employee witnesses.

You have heard testimony of law enforcement officers and employees of the government. The fact that a witness is employed by the government does not mean that his or her testimony is necessarily deserving of more or less consideration or greater or lesser weight than that of any other witness. It is legitimate for defense counsel to attack

the credibility of a law enforcement or government witness like any other witness. It is your decision after receiving all of the evidence whether to accept or reject the testimony of the witness and to give that testimony whatever weight you find it deserves.

Expert witness. You have heard expert testimony from Dr. Christopher Gharibo. An expert is someone who by education or experience has acquired learning or experience in a specialized area of knowledge. Such a witness is permitted to give his opinions as to relevant matters in which he is qualified as an expert and give his reasons or his opinions. You should consider the expert opinion that was received in evidence and give it as much or as little weight as you think it deserves. If you decide that the opinion of an expert was not based on sufficient education or experience or on sufficient data or if you conclude that the trustworthiness or credibility of the expert is questionable for any reason or if the opinion of the expert was outweighed in your judgment by other evidence in the case, then you may discard the opinion of the expert entirely or in part.

On the other hand, if you find that the opinion of the expert is based on sufficient data, education, and experience and the other evidence does not give you any reason to doubt his conclusions, you may rely on his testimony in whole or in part.

You should not, however, accept a witness's testimony merely because he is an expert nor should you substitute it for your own reason, judgment and common sense.

Persons not on trial or not indicted. You may not draw any inference favorable or unfavorable towards the government or the defendant from the fact that any person other than the defendant is not on trial here. You may not speculate as to the reasons why other persons are not on trial. Those matters are wholly outside your concern and have no bearing on your function as jurors.

Cooperating witness testimony. You also heard from witnesses who testified they were involved in criminal conduct and have subsequently pled guilty pursuant to what is called a cooperation agreement with the government. Your concern is whether a witness has given truthful testimony in court. Whether or not you approve of the use of cooperating witnesses to detect and investigate unlawful activities is not to enter into your deliberations in any way. The government sometimes must rely on the testimony of witnesses who have pleaded guilty and are cooperating. Indeed, the testimony of a single accomplice witness may be enough in itself for conviction if you believe that the testimony establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

You should scrutinize and view with caution the testimony of any witness who has signed a cooperation

agreement.

In doing so, you should ask yourself whether the witness would benefit more from lying or by telling the truth. Was his testimony made up in any way because he believed or hoped he would receive favorable treatment by testifying falsely? Or did he believe that his interest would be best served by testifying truthfully? If you believe that the witness was motivated by hopes and personal gain, was the motivation one that would cause him to lie or was it one that would cause him to tell the truth? Did the motivation color his testimony?

In sum, you should look at all of the evidence in deciding what credence and what weight, if any, you'll want to give to the cooperating witness.

Witnesses who pled guilty. You have heard testimony from a witness who pled guilty arising out of the same facts as this case. You are to draw no conclusions or inferences of any kind about the guilt of the defendant on trial here from the fact that a witness pled guilty to similar charges or unrelated charges. A decision of a witness to plead guilty is his own personal decision. It may not be used by you in any way as evidence against or unfavorable to the defendant on trial here.

Nonprosecution agreements. You have heard the testimony of individuals who entered into nonprosecution agreements with the government. What this means is that the

testimony of the witness may not be used against him in any criminal case unless he commits the crime of perjury or otherwise fails to comply with the nonprosecution agreement with the government.

The government is permitted to make these kinds of promises and is entitled to call as witnesses people to whom such promises are given. The fact that the government as agreed not to prosecute a witness does not disqualify him or her from testifying and does not preclude you from accepting that testimony as true. You may convict the defendant on the basis of such a witness's testimony alone if you find that the testimony proves the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

I must also caution you that it is no concern of yours why the government made an agreement with a particular witness. Your sole concern is whether the witness has given truthful truthful testimony here in this courtroom before you.

The testimony of a witness who has entered into a nonprosecution agreement with the government like that of a cooperating witness should also be examined by you with greater care. You should scrutinize it closely to determine whether or not it is colored in such a way as to place guilt upon the defendant in order to further the witness's own interests.

Preparation of witnesses. You have heard evidence during the trial that witnesses have discussed the facts of the

case and their testimony with the lawyers before the witnesses appeared in court.

Although you may consider that fact when you are evaluate witness's credibility, I should tell you there is nothing either unusual or improper about a witness meeting with lawyers before testifying so that the witness can be aware of the subjects he will be questioned about, focus on those subjects, and have the opportunity to review relevant exhibits before being questioned about them. Such consultation helps conserve your time and the Court's time. In fact, it would be unusual for a lawyer to call a witness without such consultations.

Again, the weight you give to the fact or the nature of the witness's preparation or his or her testimony and what inferences you draw from such preparation are matters completely within your discretion.

A defendant's right not to testify. David Taylor did not testify in this case. Under our Constitution, a defendant has no obligation to testify or to present any evidence because it is the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. That burden remains with the government throughout the entire trial. A defendant is never required to prove that he is innocent. You may not attach any significance to the fact that a defendant did not testify. No adverse inference against him may be drawn by you because he did not

take witness stand. You may not consider this in any way in your deliberations.

Similar acts. You have heard evidence that the defendant engaged in conduct similar in nature to the contact charged in the indictment. Let me remind you that the defendant only is on trial for committing the conspiracy alleged in the indictment. Accordingly, you may not consider this evidence as similar acts as substitute for prove that the defendant committed the crime charged. Nor may you consider this evidence that the prove that the defendant has criminal personality or bad character. This evidence was admitted for a more limited purpose and you may consider it for that purpose only.

If you determine that the defendant committed the acts charged in the indictment and the similar acts as well, then you may but you need not draw an inference that in doing the acted charge the in the indictment the defendant acted knowingly and intentionally and not because of some mistake, accident or other reasons.

Nevertheless, the evidence of similar conduct is to be considered by you only for the purpose for which it was admitted and not for any other purposes. Specifically, you may not consider it as evidence a that the defendant is bad character or has a propensity to commit crime. Particular investigative techniques not required. Techniques used by the

government in deciding whether the government has met its burden of proof because you should look to all of the evidence or lack of evidence in deciding whether the defendant is guilty. However, you are also instructed that there is no legal requirement that the government use any specific investigative techniques to prove its case whether you approve or disapprove of various law enforcement techniques is not the question. You should determine whether or not based on the evidence or lack of evidence the defendant's guilt has been proven beyond a reasonable doubt.

Use of evidence obtained pursuant to search. You have heard testimony about evidence seized and searched conducted by law enforcement officials. Evidence obtained from these searches was properly admitted and may be properly considered by you. Whether you prove or disapprove of how it was obtained should not enter into your deliberations. You must therefore, regardless of your personal opinions, give this evidence full consideration along with all the other evidence in determining whether the government has proved the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Use of recordings and transcripts. The government has offered evidence in the form ever recorded conversations and transcripts of those conversations. Whether you approve or disapprove of the recording of these conversations may not enter into your deliberations. I instruct you that the

recordings were made in a lawful manner and that no one's rights were violated and that this evidence was properly admitted at this trial. You must therefore regardless of any personal opinions consider this evidence as you would any other evidence in this case and make your determination as to its meaning and significance, if any, in evaluating whether the government has proven beyond a reasonable doubt the guilt of the defendant. The transcripts recording were provided to you as aides. The recordings themselves are the evidence. If you wish to view or hear any of the recordings with transcripts, they will be made available to you.

Stipulations. Stipulations have been entered into relating to various facts in this case. A stipulation of fact is an agreement between the parties that a certain fact is true. You must regard such agreed facts as true. You have also heard evidence in the form of stipulations of testimony. A stipulation of testimony is an agreement even among the party if called witness would have given certain testimony. You must accept as true a fact that the witness would have given the testimony. However, it is for you to determine the significance of that testimony.

Deliberations of jury. Presumption of innocence and the burden of proof. The defendant has pled not guilty to the charges as a result the burden is on the government to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. This burden never shifts to a

defendant and never imposes upon the defendant the burden or duty of testifying calling any witnesses or locating or producing any evidence. The law presumes the defendant is innocent. This presumption of innocence alone is sufficient to acquit the defendant. This presumption was with the defendant when the trial began and remains with the defendant unless and until you're convinced that the government as proven the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Punishment is not to considered by the jury. You should not consider the question of possible punishment of the defendant in determining if he is guilty of the crimes charged. Sentencing is exclusively the function of the Court. It is not your concern and you should not give any consideration to that issue in deciding what your verdict will be. Therefore, I instruct you not to consider punishment or possible punishment at all in job deliberations in this case.

Simply or prejudice. You are not to be swayed by sympathy or principle advertise you are to be guided solely by the evidence in this case. It is for you to alone to decide whether the government has proven the defendant is guilty of the crime charged solely on the basis of the evidence and subject to the law as I given it to you. If you have a reasonable doubt as to the defendant's guilt, you should not hesitate to acquit the defendant. On the other hand, if you should find that the government has met its burden of proving

the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, you should not hesitate because of sympathy or any other reason to render a verdict of guilty.

Request to see testimony and Exhibits. You are about to go into the jury room and begin your deliberations. If during those deliberations you want any of the exhibits or any specific portions of testimony, the exhibit will punished to you to to you be the testimony will be provided to you. Please remember it is not always easy to locate testimony is to to being as specific as you possibly can be in any request for testimony. A vague or overbroad request for testimony can lead to delays.

Selection of a foreperson and communications with the Court. The foreperson will preside over your deliberation and will be the spokesperson in court. This is done simply for the convenience. It gives him or her no greater authority, and his or her vote has no greater weight than any other jurors. You are free to select any foreperson you like. Any communication with the Court is to be made to me in writing, signed by your foreperson and given to one of the marshals. I will respond to any questions or requests you have as promptly as possible either in writing or by having you return to the courtroom so I can speak with you in person.

The verdict must be unanimous. Your function now is to weigh the evidence in this case and to determine if the

government as proven the crimes charged. You must base your verdict solely on the evidence or lack of evidence and these instructions as to the law. You're obligated to follow the law as I instruct you whether you agree or disagree with a particular law in question.

The verdict must represent the considered judgment of each juror. In order to return a verdict, it is necessary that each juror agrees to it. Your verdict must be unanimous. You should consult with one another and deliberate with a goal of reaching an agreement. Each of you must decide the case for himself or herself, but do so only after impartial discussion and consideration of all of the evidence with your fellow jurors. Do not hesitate to re-examine your own views and change your opinion if convinced it is erroneous; but do not surrender your honest conviction as to the weight or effective evidence solely because of the opinion of your fellow jurors.

Remember, you are the judges of the facts. Your sole interest is to determine whether the government has proven the crime charged beyond a reasonable doubt. If you are divided, do not report on how the vote stands. When you reach a verdict, do not report what it is until you have been instructed to do so. In conclusion, ladies and gentlemen, I am sure that if you listen to the views of your fellow jurors and if you apply your own common sense, you will reach a fair verdict here. Remember, that your verdict must be rendered

IC46TAY4 Charge without fear, without favor, and without prejudice or sympathy. I have prepared a verdict form for you to use and you should record the verdict you reach unanimously on it. Let me just speak with counsel at side bar. I will be right back. (Continued on next page)

1 (In robing room) THE COURT: I made a few edits on the fly. 2 3 Any objection to my reading of the instructions by the 4 government? 5 MR. RODRIGUEZ: No, your Honor. 6 THE COURT: By the defendant? 7 MR. CARNESI: No, your Honor. THE COURT: We'll go ahead and we'll have the marshal 8 9 sworn in. 10 Let me go through the corrections that I noted. On several pages it mentioned "crimes" that the 11 12 defendant was charged with instead of "crime." I made that 13 singular instead of plural. We'll make those corrections. 14 On page 10 it had "offenses." I made that "offense." 15 It also had "crimes" and I made that "crime." On page 21: You may not draw any inference, favorable 16 17 or unfavorable, toward the government or the defendants. made that singular, "the defendant." 18 Page 27: It is for you alone to decide whether the 19 20 government has proven that the defendant is quilty of the crimes charged. I made that "crime." 21 22 On page 29, third paragraph: You're sole interest is 23 to determine whether the government has proven the crimes 24 charged. I made that "crime."

We'll make those corrections. I will have the marshal

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sworn.

Let me check with counsel on how you want to do this. This is my intention: I will have the alternate jurors go into the jury room and grab their belongings and come back out and then I will tell them that they are still on jury duty but we're going to allow them to come home but they may not discuss this case with anyone else. They may not do any independent research. It may be necessary at some point that we might need to substitute them for one of the deliberating jurors, but my deputy will be in touch with them and then we let them go. My plan will be to let the other jurors start deliberating.

Any objection to that by the government or defense?

MR. RODRIGUEZ: No, your Honor.

MR. CARNESI: No, your Honor.

THE COURT: Anything else we need to do?

MR. ROOS: No, your Honor.

THE COURT: I will let the jurors know. I can let them know that we'll give them a copy of the instructions as soon as they are ready, or I can be silent on it. What are the parties druthers? I can be silent and they will get it when they get it.

Government and defense, fine?

MR. RODRIGUEZ: That's fine.

MR. CARNESI: That's fine.

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(In open court; jury present)

THE COURT: I will ask my wonderful and talented deputy to swear the marshal.

THE DEPUTY CLERK: Please raise your right hand.

(Marshal sworn)

THE COURT: Now, I am going ask the four alternate jurors to go into the jury room and retrieve your belongings and come back out.

(Pause)

THE COURT: You can stand over there. Step over closer to the television.

So for the four alternate jurors, here is what is happening: You are not dismissed from jury duty. You are not finished with jury duty, but I am going to allow you to go home and go on about your usual course of business. It may be necessary to substitute you for one of regular deliberating jurors.

Do not discuss this case with anyone. Don't allow anyone to discuss this case with you. Don't conduct any independent research about any of the issues or the parties or the locations in this case. My deputy will be in touch with you later if we need to have you substitute for one of the deliberating jurors. And if not, my deputy will be in touch with you if your duty ends at some point.

Thank you very much. Again, don't discuss this case

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with anyone else or let anyone discuss this with you.

(Pause)

For the 12 jurors, you are going to begin your deliberations shortly. I will give you another instruction. Once you start your deliberations, you are free to discuss this case with each other obviously but do not discuss this case with anyone else outside of the jury room. If someone needs to step outside to take a smoke break or a walk, you have to stop your deliberations and you may not resume them until unless all of them are together in the jury room.

You may begin your deliberations.

(Jury excused)

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point?

THE COURT: I think defense counsel you may still have 1 the printed out version of the verdict sheet.? 2 3 MR. CARNESI: Yes, I do. 4 THE COURT: Hand that to the government and make sure 5 again we're working on the right copy. 6 Everyone can sit down. 7 We'll make that Court Exhibit 1 and we'll send that 8 into the jury. 9 Any objection to that going in? 10 MR. CARNESI: No, your Honor. 11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: No, your Honor. 12 THE COURT: My law clerk will make those minor 13 corrections in the instructions and we'll make the jury 14 instructions Court Exhibit 2 and then we'll have one for each 15 juror. It will be A through? 16 17 THE DEPUTY CLERK: A through L, Judge. THE COURT: A through L. 18 19 Any objection to that? 20 MR. CARNESI: No. THE COURT: What we'll do is make those corrections. 21 22 We'll have that brought up to counsel to make sure that 23 conforms with everybody. 24 Anything else from the government or defense at this

1 MR. RODRIGUEZ: No, your Honor. 2 MR. CARNESI: No, your Honor. 3 THE COURT: We'll make those corrections. 4 See you soon. 5 (Recess pending verdict) 6 THE COURT: Okav. Let me ask counsel to look. 7 made the changes on the jury instructions. Have counsel look at that and if it is okay and if so we'll send in the 8 9 instructions to all of the jurors. 10 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Everything is fine from the 11 government. MR. CARNESI: It's fine with me, your Honor. 12 13 THE COURT: Both sides consent to sending those 14 instructions into the jury? 15 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes, your Honor. 16 MR. CARNESI: Yes, your Honor. 17 THE COURT: We have those marked A through L? 18 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Yes, Judge. THE COURT: Send them in. 19 20 Counsel, while we're waiting on the jury, you don't 21 have to sit here in the courtroom. Just don't go too far away. 22 My deputy has your cell phone numbers if you want to step 23 outside and walk around a little bit. If you haven't heard 24 anything from us, definitely come back by 3:00 in any event. 25 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes, your Honor. Thank you.

(Recess pending verdict)

1 THE COURT: It's 3:00. I will bring the jury out and 2 tell them that we're going to dismiss them for the day, remind 3 them again not to discuss the case with anyone else, not to conduct any independent research, and have them come back here 4 5 Thursday at 9:30. I will remind them that they will go 6 straight to the jury room but they cannot start their 7 deliberations until all of the jurors have arrived. 8 Any objection to that by government or the defense? 9 MR. CARNESI: No, your Honor. 10 MR. RODRIGUEZ: No, your Honor. 11 THE COURT: If the jurors come out here and start jumping up and down, then we'll deal with that then. 12 13 Let's bring the jury in. 14 (Continued on next page) 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

1 (In open court; jury present)

THE COURT: It's 3:00. We're going dismiss you for the day. I will ask you to get here at 9:30 on Thursday. Remember we're not sitting tomorrow. On Thursday you go straight to the jury room but you may not start your deliberations until everyone is there. When everyone has arrived in the jury room, you may resume your deliberations. Again, as always do not discuss this case with anyone else. Don't allow anyone to discuss it with you except when you are all assembled together in the jury room. Don't conduct any independent research regarding any of the issues, parties or locations in this case.

Have a wonderful evening. Again, Thursday you will come here. You will not need to come out but you will go straight to jury room and resume your deliberations.

See you on Thursday.

(Jury excused)

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(In open court; jury not present)

THE COURT: I didn't see any jurors making any frantic gestures. Did anyone else?

MS. FLETCHER: I am loathe to say what I heard jurors say in the courtroom. We heard two jurors discuss amongst themselves whether they should ask the Court something and they said it is never too late and then they walked out.

THE COURT: Defense counsel?

MR. CARNESI: No.

THE COURT: In light of what the government said, we can ask counsel to stay a few minutes.

MS. FLETCHER: I presume the jurors are already on their way out of the building.

THE COURT: Just to be safe let's have counsel hang out another three minutes. My deputy has your contact information. It's not necessary for counsel to get here at 9:30. I think that the government's office is relatively close to here unless you moved offices or you are at some satellite office.

Mr. Carnesi, how far is your office from here?

MR. CARNESI: Far enough that I will be here if not 9:30, 10:00.

THE COURT: Let's have counsel check in either in person or by telephone with my deputy at, say, 10:00.

MR. CARNESI: Thank you.

1 THE COURT: In light of what counsel for the 2 government just said that they believe that they overheard 3 jurors saying, it doesn't seem it is necessary or appropriate for to us make any inquiry, but let me just check in with 4 5 counsel. 6 Counsel for government or defense? 7 MR. CARNESI: I have no request, Judge. 8 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Or the government. 9 THE COURT: No request for me to do anything about 10 that at all, counsel for the government and defense? 11 MR. CARNESI: No, your Honor. 12 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Correct, Judge. 13 THE COURT: See you. 14 (Adjourned to December 6th, 2018, 9:30 a.m.) 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25